FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

11 MARCH 1987

Lebanon

A Syrian source cited by the UAE's *Al-Khalij* 8 March denied the recent *Al-Ittihad* story that Anglican Church envoy Terry Waite is being held at a Syrian center in 'Anjar. The "highly-placed" source also dismissed *Al-Ittihad*'s claim that three hostages were killed when the Syrians took over Hizballah's barracks in Al-Bastah. Syrian forces in Beirut arrested a number of student political activists on the American University campus 10 March, AFP reported, noting that those detained included members of Hizballah, the PSP, and the Amal Movement.

On the political level, Voice of Lebanon radio cited a Lebanese Forces (LF) statement that reaffirmed the LF's opposition to Syria's "illegitimate" entry into West Beirut, called for the resignation of Prime Minister Rashid Karami's government, and urged Lebanese leaders not to fall into the "trap" of seeking salvation through those "who continue to swallow up and annex Lebanon." The LF are "astonished" by political proposals that focus on "trivial issues" at a time when the country is under occupation and faces a crisis of existence and destiny, the statement asserted.

Israel and the United States

A U.S. Defense Department note to Israel expresses "strong language" over the appointment of Colonel Avi'em Sela' as head of the Tel Nof air base and threatens a "total boycott" of the base by U.S. military personnel, Jerusalem radio reported. Israeli Foreign Ministry officials have warned that Israel can expect difficulties in many aspects of its relations with the United States if it does not investigate the Pollard affair and remove Rafi Eytan and Col Sela' from their posts, the radio noted. However, the daily *Ma'ariv* criticized Israeli leaders for failing to react firmly to U.S. pressure over the Pollard affair, contending that Pollard's espionage activities would not have been needed if the United States had been "fair and honest" with Israel and supplied it with military information about the PLO and hostile Arab countries. The paper spoke of an "anti-Israeli incitement campaign" involving the U.S. secretary of defense and "all those in the administration who do not like us," and it claimed that there are "numerous examples" of U.S. espionage activities in Israel.

Iran-Iraq War

The Iraqi V Army Corps crushed an Iranian offensive in the north 10 March, INA reported. In contrast, an Iranian military commander told IRNA that in the "Karbala'-7" operation Iranian forces broke through all fortified Iraqi positions and repulsed nine counteroffensives. In other developments, in a statement to INA, an Iraqi military spokesman announced Iraqi planes raided a large maritime target near the Iranian coast 10 March. An Iraqi military spokesman also denied Iranian claims of downing an Iraqi MiG-23 near Basra, INA reported.

The Iranian Embassy in Beijing denied a statement by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz that the PRC sold arms to Iran, branding Shultz' claim an attempt to "cover up" U.S. defeats, IRNA reported.

Saudi Arabia

Oil Talks With Iran — Iranian Oil Minister Gholam Reza Aqazadeh described talks with his Saudi counterpart as "constructive and good." In a statement to SPA before leaving Riyadh, Aqazadeh added that they agreed on the need to adhere to OPEC production quotas.

Death Penalty for Drugs — Saudi religious leaders have called for the death penalty for drug traffickers, the interior minister announced in remarks reported by Riyadh radio. Such sentences must be passed by the Islamic Shari'ah courts and approved by King Fahd, the minister said.

Morocco and the Western Sahara

A Moroccan military communique reported by MAP spoke of "numerous clashes" between Moroccan troops and "mercenaries" in the Mahbes-farsia area during the last 2 weeks, adding that the fighting did not prevent Morocco's attempts to extend its defensive wall system. The communique claimed that 204 enemy troops were killed, while Moroccan losses amounted to 27 dead and 61 injured. On the Saharan side, an SDAR statement cited by Algiers radio announced that Polisario fighters killed 120 Moroccans and wounded 200 in a 9 March attack on Moroccan positions in the area. Algiers radio also noted the SDAR president's arrival in Damascus for talks with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad.

Libya

A Foreign Liaison Bureau statement condemned French President Mitterrand's 10 March statement that the solution to the Chad conflict is primarily military, Tripoli television reported. It declared the remark proof of France's intent to prolong the fighting in Chad.

Palestinian Unity Talks

Leaders of five Palestinian factions opened unity talks in Tunis 9 March, TAP reported. At the same time, a second round of talks was held in Algiers between Fatah's Khalil al-Wazir and PFLP leader George Habash, TAP added.

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Agreement Reached for Arab Summit by September

LD101035 Kuwait KUNA in English 0934 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Abu-Dhabi, March 10 (KUNA) — An agreement was reached to hold the long awaited Arab summit on a date not exceeding next September, *Al-Bayan*, published in Dubayy today quoted high-level Arab diplomatic sources as saying.

The sources added the agreement was reached during the five-member Arab summit, which was held late January in Kuwait at the sideline of the Islamic summit, grouping leaders of Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Algeria and Syria.

Saudi Arabia is exerting pressures to end the state of Arab disarray, the paper said, noting that Syria has pledged to attend the summit.

Meanwhile, the daily quoted well-informed Palestinian sources as saying that inter-Palestinian reconciliation, aimed at endorsing legitimacy of Palestinian leadership, will facilitate the convening of the summit.

Palestinian Groups Hold Meetings in Tunis

LD101457 Tunis TAP in Arabic 1200 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Tunis, 10 Mar (TAP) — A meeting of leaders opened yesterday in Tunis among five Palestinian factions to study the appropriate means to achieve Palestinian national reconciliation and prepare for a unified political program as a preliminary step to holding the Palestinian National Congress.

A responsible source in Tunis reported that taking part in these meetings was the Fatah Movement, the biggest of the Palestinian organizations, the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the Arab Liberation Front, the Palestine Liberation Front, and the Palestinian Communist Party.

The same source added that these talks will be completed today by a round of talks in Algiers between the Fatah Movement and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, cochaired by Mr Khalil al-Wazir, also known as Abu Jihad, Fatah Central Committee member, and George Habash, secretary general of the Popular Front.

Participants Named

JN101719 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] A meeting composed of representatives of five Palestinian factions was held in Tunis yesterday to discuss a number of issues pertaining to inter-Palestinian dialogue and the political program called for by the Palestinian factions in preparation for convening a PNC session. The meeting was composed of Brothers Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir] and Abu Mahir [Muhammad Ratib Ghunaym] for Fatah; Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh for the DFLP; 'Abd al-Rahim Ahmad for the Arab Liberation Front; Ahmad Najm for the Palestine Liberation Front; and Sulyaman al-Najjar for the Palestinian Communist Party.

PFLP's George Habash Arrives in Algiers

LD081057 Algiers APS in Arabic 0855 GMT 8 Mar 87

[Text] Algiers, 8 Mar (APS) — PFLP Secretary General George Habash arrived in Algiers yesterday evening. He was welcomed at the Houari Boumediene International Airport by Sadek Zouten, member of the FLN Secretariat General in charge of the Council of Solidarity and Friendship With Peoples.

Habash told the press on his arrival at the airport that the visit comes within the framework of contacts between the Palestinian groups and the Algerian leadership to insure the success of the Chadli Bendjedid's initiative, which arises from the latter's sense of the importance of the restoration of PLO unity.

George Habash added that the Palestinians feel truly grateful for the Algerian leadership's attempts to reunite the Palestinians, and that all realize the great dangers inherent in the PLO's continued division. He added: We are anxious to insure the success of the Algerian political leadership's initiative so that it covers the largest number of Palestinian groups and enjoys the widest Arab Palestinian, Arab, and international support.

In conclusion, George Habash said: "We feel it is necessary to continue visits and consultations with the Algerian leadership to discuss the conditions of the Palestinian revolution and the Arab situation to insure steadfastness in the face of Zionism, which is used by imperialism against the Arab nation in general and the Palestinians in particular."

Habash Meets Messaadia

LD090005 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 8 Mar 87

[Text] Brother Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, Political Bureau member and official in charge of the FLN Central Committee Permanent Secretariat, received at the party's central office this afternoon PFLP Secretary General George Habash with the attendence of Brother Sadek Zouatin, member of the FLN Central Committee Permanent Secretariat in charge of the Council for Friendship and Solidarity With Foreign Peoples.

President Chadli Bendjedid's initiative for uniting the Palestinian ranks and the efforts in this direction were the center of the talks that took place during that meeting, which analyzed the latest developments in the Palestinian arena.

Holds Talks With Al-Wazir

LD102054 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic :702 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Brother Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], member of the Central Committee and deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces, has left Algiers following a brief visit during which he held talks with a number of senior Algerian officials. The talks revolved around the latest developments of the situation in the Palestinian arena.

Abu Jihad also met with Dr George Habash, PFLP secretary

general, who has been in Algiers on a visit for several days. A Palestinian source asserted the two sides' meeting was a continuation of previous meetings; the talks centered upon the means to resume dialogue between all the detachments of the Palestinian revolution with the aim of convening the PNC.

Palestinian 'Factions' Hold Contacts in Libya

JN110903 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 8 Mar 87 p 19

['Amid al-Shanti dispatch from Tripoli]

[Text] What is going on in the Palestinian arena now? How far have the Arab efforts to reunify the PLO reached? We found answers to these questions in the Libyan capital, where meetings and contacts are being held among all the Palestinian resistance factions without exception. These meetings and contacts can be considered decisive because they will either succeed in reuniting the factions or declare a final divorce and nonreturn of intra-Palestinian relations.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi began his contacts with the resistance factions in Tripoli after inviting them all, including Abu Nidal's [Sabri al-Banna's] group. Libya, as DFLP leader Nayif Hawatimah says, is doing its best to bring the resistance factions together. For instance, the DFLP's relations with Libya, which had been severed, were resumed only a few weeks ago with the aim of reuniting the Palestinians. Hawatimah, also known as Abu Khalid, adds: Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi told us he will do his best for unity. Therefore, he invited all factions for Palestinian unity talks. He was helped in this regard by the Algerians, particularly Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, the second in command in Algeria, who is currently in Libya.

Hawatimah says: We agreed with the Fatah Movement in Algiers to restore unity. We also agreed that the Fatah Movement will announce the abrogation of the Amman agreement in a statement issued by Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], while continuing the Palestinian-Jordanian dialogue in implementation of the PNC resolutions, the latest of which came from the PNC session in Algiers. [location as published] The Cairo station of the PLO has been closed. The Fatah Movement was positive in this regard and announced that it is ready to issue a statement to this effect on the eve of the resistance factions' meeting. It was also agreed to increase the number of the PLO Executive Committee members and to adopt decisions unanimously regarding any new action.

Hawatimah says disagreement now lies in the fact that the PFLP is still irresponsive. It fears any agreement with Abu 'Ammar and not with the Fatah Central Committee.

Asked about this subject, Habash told *Al-Qabas* via Taysir Qub'ah, official in charge of the PFLP's foreign relations: First of all we would like to point out that we support one PLO regardless of the price and will not join, or agree to the formation of, an alternative organization, even if this means withdrawal from the PNSF. Qub'ah adds on behalf of Habash: We wish to restore relations [with Fatah], but we have two conditions: The abrogation of the Amman agreement and the closure of Cairo station. Dialogue will then begin, but not before the Amman agreement is abrogated. Dialogue sessions will then be held, after which a PNC session will convene to elect new members because our information says the subject of the Amman and Cairo agreements will be presented to the present PNC. We are now ready for dialogue upon the request of Libya and Algeria, and we hope to reach a solution.

Khalil al-Wazir, known as Abu Jihad, who chaired the Palestinian side received very special treatment in Libya. Unlike the leaders of the other factions, he stayed in a special place of residence and all his moves were official. He told *Al-Qabas*: We are here at Col al-Qadhdhafi's invitation to hold dialogue with the factions. Our stand is clear and declared. We strive for the unity of factions and will extend every possible help in this regard. The Amman agreement is frozen, and we are ready to cancel it. However, there are conditions that we presented to the Algerian and Libyan brothers. We do not want to repeat what happened after the Aden and Algiers agreement. Libya is trying to ensure the success of dialogue in view of its strong relations with the other factions. As a Palestinian leader said, it wants to hold the PNC on its territory, something that we do not oppose or reject. By this it wants to indirectly rectify its policy; to be more accurate, there is a comprehensive review of Libyan relations with all the Arabs, and the first battle it can win is holding a PNC session attended by the Palestinian factions.

The Palestinian official adds that Abu 'Ammar's visit to Libya is very likely if Libya succeeds in bringing the factions' viewpoints closer and if an agreement on principles is reached.

'Abd al-Salam Jallud, the second in command in Libya — and this is an undeniable fact — is now contacting the leaders of the resistance factions. The other factions, such as Ahmad Jibril's group, which is rejecting any meeting with Abu 'Ammar, will not attend the comming meetings. The same applies to the Popular Struggle Front, Al-Sa'iqah, Abu Nidal's group, and the ALF. However, these factions will agree to meet with Abu 'Ammar, even implicitly, in the coming stage and will return to the PLO once Fatah's relations with Syria are restored. As for the dissident group, all agree that it does not constitute any power and that it is an internal problem with Fatah. As soon as relations with Syria are restored this group's problems can be solved.

It seems that the coming days will define relations among the Palestinian factions. If this does not happen, the DFLP, Fatah, the ALF, the Abu al-'Abbas [Muhammad 'Abbas] group, and the Palestinian Comunity Party will hold a PNC session without the other fronts.

PLO Rejects Jordan's Position on Resolution 242

JN091721 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] Brother Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces, has said the possibility of resuming political coordination between Jordan and the PLO is out of the question as long as Jordan insists on the PLO's recognition of Resolution 242, which cancels all the Palestinian people's legitimate rights.

In a statement published by the Al-Shariqah-based newspaper *Al-Khalij* today, Brother Abu Jihad described enemy Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres' recent visit to Cairo as an attempt to prove himself in his conflict with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. Brother Abu Jihad said the international conference mentioned in the joint Egyptian-Israeli communique is not an international conference.

Regarding the Palestinian situation in Lebanon, Brother Abu Jihad said: We were hoping the siege and starvation of the camps would come to an end, but the Amal Movement continues to shell and besiege the Beirut camps. Brother Abu Jihad hailed the development in Palestinian-Libyan relations. He said his recent visit to Libya and meeting with Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi have turned a new page in Libyan-Palestinian relations and will have a important effect in the near future.

Palestine Fund Director Leaves Jordan for UAE

JN091849 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1730 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] A Palestinian source has announced in Amman that the director of the Palestine National Fund, Nizar Abu Ghazalah, left Amman today for Abu Dhabi following an agreement between the PLO and UAE officials to transfer the fund's headquarters from Amman to Abu Dhabi.

PLO's 'Arafat Leaves Sanaa, Makes Statement

JN081343 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 8 Mar 87

[Text] Brother struggler Yasir 'Arafat, PLO leader and commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces, has left the country after a visit of several days. Before his departure, 'Arafat told SABA' that he held talks with Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, and other officials on important issues, notably the plight of the population of Palestinian camps in Beirut and south Lebanon and the continuing siege, aggression, starvation, and killing of women, children, and the elderly. The YAR is part of the Arab seven-member committee charged with watching the situation around the camps.

'Arafat commended the interest shown by President Salih on the situation in the camps and his eagerness for an end to the suffering of the camps' residents. The PLO chief said he and YAR officials also discussed Arab and international issues, particularly Arab solidarity and the proposed international conference to solve the Palestinian problem, against the background of the relevant European declaration and the ICO summit resolutions supporting the Palestinian cause and people.

He was seen off at the airport by government officials, PLO Sanaa representative Jamal 'Arafat, and cadres of the Palestinian revolution stationed in Sanaa.

Tariq 'Aziz Confers With Yasir 'Arafat

JN091836 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1756 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] Baghdad, 9 Mar (INA) Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat here this evening and discussed developments in both the Palestinian and Arab arenas, as well as the continuation of the Iranian aggression against Iraq. Tariq 'Aziz stressed Iraq's firm support for the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

PNC Member Delivers 'Arafat Message to Mubarak

JN102010 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1820 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] sent a message to Egyptian President Husni Mubarak today. The message was conveyed by PNC member Jamal al-Surani during a meeting with the Egyptian president in Cairo today.

BAHRAIN

U.S. Admiral Crowe Arrives in Bahrain 10 March

JN101605 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1410 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Manama, 10 Mar (WAKH) — Admiral William J. Crowe, U.S. chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and the accompanying delegation arrived in Manama this afternoon on an official visit to Bahrain within a tour of a number of regional countries. He was received at the airport by Major General Shaykh Khalifah ibn Ahmad al-Khalifah, the Bahraini Defense Force chief of staff; the U.S. ambassador to Bahrain; and a number of senior officers.

Meets With Heir Apparent

JN111046 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1000 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Manama, 11 Mar (WAKH) — His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, heir apparent and commander in chief of the Bahraini Defense Force, received William Crowe, chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, this morning. Crowe is currently on a visit to Bahrain. Attending the meeting were Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah, Chief of Staff Major General Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Khalifah, and the U.S. ambassador to Bahrain.

OAPEC's 'Ali 'Atiqah Arrives in Manama 9 March

JN101643 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1816 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] Manama, 9 Mar (WAKH) — OAPEC Secretary General Dr 'Ali 'Atiqah arrived here this evening on a 3-day visit to Bahrain. During the visit, he will hold talks with Yusuf Ahmad al-Shirawi, minister of development and industry and minister of state for cabinet affairs, and senior Bahraini officials on oil issues and cooperation between Bahrain and OAPEC.

KUWAIT

'Underground Organization' Members Face Trial

LD101833 Kuwait KUNA in English 1555 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Kuwait, March 10 (KUNA) — President of the State Security Court Mohammad Abdul Hai al-Banai has set April 4 for the trial of the members of the underground organization who were rounded up last January.

The source told KUNA that the State Security has referred to the court 16 members of the underground organization of whom 12 have been arrested. The remaining four are still at large.

He added the accused face the charge of willfully committing actions fringing on the unity and territorial safety of the country.

The source pointed out that the first session will convene publicly.

Cultural Agreement Signed With Soviet Union

LD101618 Kuwait KUNA in English 1352 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Kuwait, March 10 (KUNA) — Kuwait and the Soviet Union Tuesday signed a two-year cultural agreement covering the fields of science, culture, arts, education, information, tourism and health.

The agreement was signed by the Soviet ambassador here and Secretary General of the National Council for Cultural Arts and Letters Ahmed Meshari al-Adwani.

The agreement stipulated the exchange of visits in the fields of science, arts, culture and letters to benefit from joint experience and exchange of formative arts exhibitions.

The agreement also calls for the exchange of invitations to participate in international exhibitions for books organized between the two countries and host delegations from movie industry to attend international festivals in Moscow and Tashkent.

Encouraging the exchange of books, publications, and cooperation between the national libraries in both countries and the exchange of visits in the field of museums, were also embodied in the agreement.

SAUDI ARABIA

Nazir Meets Iranian Counterpart During Stopover

LD102012 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1833 GMT 10 Mar 87

[tExt] Riyadh, 10 Mar (SPA) — Iranian Petroleum Minister Gholam Reza Aqazadeh arrived at Riyadh's King Khalid International Airport this evening from Libya on his way to the UAE. He was welcomed by Hisham Nazir, minister of petroleum and mineral resources, and acting Planning Minister Mohammad Hoseyn Taremi, and several of the ministry's senior officials.

His Excellency Hisham Nazir met with Gholam Reza Aqazadeh during his stopover at the airport, after which the Iranian petroleum minister left King Khalid International Airport and was seen off by his excellency the minister of petroleum and mineral resources and acting planning minister, a number of the ministry's officials and the Iranian charge d'affaires in the Kingdom.

His excellency the Iranian petroleum minister, in a statement to SPA before his departure from the Kingdom, described his talks with His Excellency Hisham Nazir as constructive and good.

He explained that there is agreement between OPEC members on the need to maintain the levels of productions within the limits defined by the organization's resolution. He referred to the importance of maintaining prices and abiding by them without any concession.

He stated that in the wake of numerous visits to a number of countries, we have deemed necessary to consult with His Excellency Hisham Nazir.

His Excellency the Iranian petroleum minister explained that during the talks the need to maintain constant contact was stressed. He added that among the matters agreed upon in the talks was the need for OPEC members to adhere to their quotas and to the fixed prices for their oil.

The Iranian minister said we will see to it that the prices remain constant this year and we will show no flexibility regarding the change in price and its decline.

He said that during his visits to a number of countries he felt that agreement exists between the members of the organization.

Foreign Workers Exempted From Pension Provisions

LD102201 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1620 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Riyadh, 10 Mar 1987 SPA — A royal decree has been issued cancelling the application of the social security laws to foreign workers as regards the pensions section.

The Council of Ministers will issue the necessary bases for implementing what may ensue.

Here is the text of the decree:

Royal Decree No M/43 dated 10 March 1987.

With the assistance of God Almighty, we, Fahd ibn 'Abd al-Aziz al Sa'ud, king of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, after looking into Item 200 of the Council of Ministers regulation issued by Royal Decree No 38 of May 1958, looking into the social security regulations issued by Royal Decree No M/22 of December 1969 and amended by Royal Decree No M/24 of April 1982 and after looking into the Council of Ministers Resolution No 154 of 9 March 1987 have decreed the following:

1. The application of the social security rules to foreign workers regarding the pensions section is cancelled;

2. Based on the proposal of the Board of the Public Corporation for social security, the Council of Ministers will establish the necessary bases to implement what may ensue;

3. This decree cancels out all regulations that contradict it;

4. This decree will be published in the *Official Gazette* and will be effective from the date of its publication;

5. The deputy prime minister and ministers, each in their capacity, are to implement this decree.

Referring to the instruction of the custodian of the holy mosques, King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-Aziz, and to the explanation he gave SPA after the Council of Ministers session yesterday regarding discussions on some regulations, including social security for foreign workers, Minister of Information 'Ali al-Sha'ir made the following explanation to SPA:

The Council of Ministers reviewed in successive sessions, at the instruction of the custodian of the two holy mosques, the inclusion of foreign workers employed in the Kingdom in the pension section of the social security system. It became clear to the council that the advantages of the pension section stipulate long periods of contribution so that the contributor can gain from them. Saudi contributors achieve this in view of their permanent presence and continued work in their homeland, while the majority of foreign workers come to work in the Kingdom for limited periods to contribute in the implementation of development plans and then return to their countries. Therefore, they are unable, on the whole, to complete the contribution period required by the system to qualify for pensions which are the main objective of the system in view of the fact that social securities were by their nature established to cover the situation arising from reaching old age, disability, and death.

It also became clear that some enjoyed the protection of similar systems in their homelands which makes their inclusion in the pensions of the social security system during their temporary stay in the Kingdom an unjustifiable duplication. It also became clear that the process of paying out compensations to those foreign workers who qualify or their heirs in their homelands was surrounded with many difficulties and these difficulties increased with the passage of time.

All these reasons led to repeated requested from the majority of foreign workers not to apply the pensions section of the social security system to them.

On the basis of this a Royal Decree No M/43 dated 10 March 1987 stipulating inapplicability of the pension section of the social security system to foreign workers employed in the Kingdom has been issued and the Council of Ministers will issue the necessary basis for the implementation of what may ensue from this. As a consequence of this the payment of contributions by foreign workers to the pension section, which is 13 percent of the monthly wage, will be stopped. Meanwhile contribution to the professional risks [akhtar] at 2 (two) percent, which is paid by the employer for all workers, will continue.

Law Enacts Death Penalty for Drug Traffickers

LD102336 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Excerpt] Interior Minister His Royal Highness Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz issued a statement today declaring that the Council of Prominent Ulema has made a unanimous decision to the effect that drug traffickers will be subjected to the death penalty and drug pushers will be imprisoned. His royal highness expressed the hope that this decision, which arises from the provisions of the holy Shari'a, will be of benefit to society and will serve as a reminder, warning and deterrant to those involved in these crimes.

His royal highness stressed that the Interior Ministry will carry out these sentences as soon as they are passed by the Islamic Shari'a courts and after they have been approved by the custodian of the two holy mosques. [passage omitted]

YAR

Kuwait's Al-'Usaymi Meets President, Departs

JN102113 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, received Brother Sa'ud Muhammad al-'Usaymi, Kuwaiti minister of state for foreign affairs, at his office today. The president asked him to convey a reply message to his brother Kuwaiti Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah. The meeting was attended by Yahya Husayn al-'Arashi, minister of state for unity affairs and member of the Standing Committee, and the Kuwait ambassador in Sanaa.

The Kuwaiti minister of state for foreign affairs left Sanaa this evening after a visit to the YAR. He was seen off at the airport by Brother Yahya Husayn al-'Arashi, minister of state for unity affairs and member of the Standing Committee, a presidential protocol official, and Kuwaiti Ambassador to YAR Musa Sulayman al-Musa.

French Parliamentarians Meet Vice President

JN101730 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Vice President 'Abd al-Karim al-'Arashi, head of the Constituent People's Assembly and Standing Committee member, has received the French National Assembly delegation, led by Michel (Conta), currently visiting our country. Talks dealt with relations between the Constituent People's Assembly and the French National Assembly and the exchange of expertise at international conferences. The meeting was attended by the French ambassador in Sanaa.

The French National Assembly delegation has also called on Prime Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani. They reviewed economic, cultural, and agricultural cooperation between the YAR and France. The French ambassador attended the meeting.

Delegation Ends Talks

JN102047 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] The final round of the YAR-French parliamentary talks was held this afternoon. The YAR delegation was led by Brother 'Abdallah al-Nasir al-Anisi, secretary general of the Constituent People's Assembly, and the French delegation by Michel (Conta), National Assembly member and chairman of the French-Yemeni Friendship Society.

Speaking at the outset of the session, (Conta) expressed his deep appreciation of Yemen's historical sites and the sure desire of YAR Government officials to develop relations with France in political, cultural, and economic fields. He noted there are close ties between France and the YAR and said his country was prepared to help in the development process of Yemen.

Meanwhile, the secretary general of the Constituent People's Assembly has expressed appreciation to the French parliamentary delegation for voicing their country's preparedness to implement the financial and economic agreement, which takes into consideration the special circumstances of the YAR in terms of the large facilities which will bring great economic returns. He wished further progress for the good relations between the two friendly countries.

President Salih on Refugees, PDRY Incidents

JN101005 Cairo AL-MUSAWWAR in Arabic 6 Mar 87 pp 14-19, 64-66

[Interview with President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih by *Al-Musawwar* editor in chief Makram Muhammad Ahmad in Sanaa — date no given]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted reviewing progress in the YAR over past 25 years following the revolution] [Ahmad] Mr President, are you worried that the state of undeclared war with Aden will resume following the January incidents and this huge influx of those who had left Aden with former President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad?

[Salih] I hope that wisdom will prevail because we are not a party in this issue, because we refuse to interfere in the affairs of others, and because past experience has been bitter and difficult.

A state of undeclared war continued to exist on the borders with Aden until 1982. They wanted to forcibly impose an alien ideology that would harm the Yemeni state of affairs under immature slogans of exporting the revolution. However, our people rejected all this as well as their conspiracies to create sectarian and tribal prejudices to fragment Yemeni unity. Under the slogan of exporting the revolution, the antipatriotic forces who used to call themselves the National Front played havoc with the various areas, and killed notables, old men, women, and children. Hardly a household was left without a bereavement. In the end we succeeded in wiping out all the groups of sabotage and conspiracies and the country was saved from this nightmare. Since that time, the borders with Aden have been quiet. That is why I hope that wisdom will prevail because we have never been a party in any of Aden's domestic issues.

[Ahmad] Mr President, every time there is a conflict in Aden emigration to the North takes place. Does not this continued exodus to the North, which has been estimated at one-third of the population of the South, create a state of tension between Aden and Sanaa?

[Salih] We cannot close the borders to these refugees from the South because if we do so we will be denying their Yemeni identity. Refugees have continued to flock to the northern part of the homeland since independence in view of the fact that we are one people. Perhaps their number has really reached 400,000 refugees. However, this large number does not pose a great problem to us because we can absorb such a number and we can

provide them with job opportunities. The problem is that the conflicts which take place in the southern part have a negative impact on the state of affairs in the northern part. The divisions which take place there one after the other force us to deal with huge numbers of refugees. In the past, the exodus of these refugees did not cause us any political problem because only some leaders used to leave with them. But with respect to the latest exodus following the January incidents, many political leaders and cadres were among those who left because what had happened in Aden had been a complete rift in the party and the central committee, a rift which took place in all the government organs, the army, the security forces, the militias, and the other services. We found ourselves facing this great rift which caused this huge exodus of leaders. We are now exerting huge efforts with Aden to settle this issue through national reconciliation that will allow these leaders and cadres to return to their homes and families, particularly that ranking political and military figures are among these refugees.

We believe the side that succeeded in settling the conflict in its interest is the party that should demonstrate a sense of responsibility and bypass all differences to achieve this reconciliation.

It is true that the battle was a serious one and that much blood was shed, not to mention the great destruction that has befallen the country, but we believe the ruling regime in Aden should demonstrate some sense of responsibility to restore national accord.

We would advise the brothers in the southern part of the homeland to agree to the settlement of the problem through dialogue and through peaceful and democratic means, or to resort to the bases of their party regime and its organizations in a manner that will guarantee security and stability to all as well as their repatriation and participation in their country's affairs.

[Ahmad] Mr President, it seems that the mediation efforts recently undertaken by Sanaa and Kuwait have not achieved any progress worth mentioning. Does the problem consist of 'Ali Nasir Muhammad's return and does he link his return to the return of the refugees?

[Salih] Our stand on this is clear. We have told our brothers in the South that one or several persons, no matter how highly placed they were before, should not be an obstacle to the return of some 50,000 persons, which is the number of the recent exodus. We do not impose their return. However, cadres and key figures left with 'Ali Nasir Muhammad. The problem should be resolved with these key figures and cadres which were forced to leave the country.

[Ahmad] Does the YAR consider the possibility of helping 'Ali Nasir Muhammad to return by force of arms?

[Salih] Our stand is clear on this issue. We will never help any person return by the force of arms.

[Ahmad] Then Sanaa does not believe 'Ali Nasir Muhammad should be the first to return?

[Salih] No one sets such a condition. He himself has not set such a condition. If he wishes to reside in Sanaa he will be welcome in his homeland. Our country's principled policy is not to interfere in domestic affairs.

[Ahmad] Mr President, it has been reported that Moscow is unhappy with the presence of 'Ali Nasir Muhammad in either Sanaa or Addis Ababa because it believes his presence near Aden is like a mine that could explode at any time?

[Salih] Moscow did not communicate such a thing to us. However, understanding exists between us on the need to exert joint efforts to settle the problem of the return of the refugees in a peaceful manner.

[Ahmad] Mr President, what is the lesson learned in Sanaa from the January incidents in Aden and all the conflicts and divsiions?

[Salih] What happened was a bloody tragedy unprecedented in history. The brothers in the South should learn from this harsh lesson, for we cannot exonerate either party to the conflict. What happened was one of the results of the power struggle and was in response to the ambitions of the feuding groups. The masses are the loser, and the ordinary citizen is the victim.

What happened in Aden makes us more determined to adhere to the formula of national reconciliation, a formula that brings everyone in the homeland together in a democratic experiment that will reflect our true state of affairs without any harm or excesses.

[Ahmad] Mr President, how do you view the current Arab state of affairs and the end of the crisis?

[Salih] I believe that what happened in the Kuwait summit calls for some optimism. I believe the bilateral meetings that took place among the Arab leaders have dampened the atmosphere to a large extent and have improved Arab relations even if this has taken place only on a bilateral level. We believe in the need for joint Arab efforts that will overcome the tragic state of affairs of the Arab nation with a spirit of responsibility and sincerity so that matters will return to what they were. We believe that any differences, no matter how exacerbated they are, should be settled because there are no differences which cannot be solved. That is why we pin our hopes on the return of Arab solidarity.

We believe in the need for an Arab summit that will clear the Arab atmosphere and settle the artificial problems which only serve our nation's enemies. We believe an Arab summit is needed now despite the fact that there is another Arab opinion which says that this summit must be preceded by clearing the atmosphere and settling problems. We would like to ask the following question to those who champion such a stand: If the Arab summit is not a necessity to settle problems and confront challenges and if part of its task is not to solve problems, then what will its task be?

[Ahmad] Mr President, is there anything new in your relations with the PLO? It has been recently reported that Sanaa could be an alternative headquarters for the PLO?

[Salih] We support the unity of the PLO and believe the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. We support, embrace, and welcome the PLO particularly after it lost its position in Beirut following the Israeli invasion.

[Ahmad] Mr President, what is the nature of the present relations between Yemen and the Soviet Union?

[Salih] Yemen has historic, longstanding, good, and special relations with the Soviet Union.

[Ahmad] What is the state of relations with Washington?

[Salih] Relations with Washington are good and satisfactory.

[Ahmad] Mr President, how does Yemen balance its international relations?

[Salih] Yemen's interests require us to have good relations with all sides, with both the East and the West, within the limits of common interests and without relinquishing our national sovereignty. All parties must be committed to the principle of noninterference in internal affairs.

[Ahmad] Mr President, what is the prominent Soviet contribution to Yemeni life?

[Salih] Soviet weapons continue to play a major role in the development of the Yemeni Army. However, we diversify the sources of arms and import U.S. and Western weapons. The truth is that the Soviets have made a significant contribution in extending assistance for the defense of the revolution. They have also extended some assistance in the development of the country: They helped us to build the cement plant in Bajil and to construct the Al-Hudaydah-Ta'izz Road. They have also provided equipment for technical secondary schools and built berths in the port of Al-Hudaydah.

[[Ahmad] Mr President, just as we asked about the Soviet contribution, we must ask about the U.S. contribution?

[Salih] The Americans have products for sale and have made satisfactory contributions to the development of the country, par-ticularly in education and agriculture. They have also helped us in the training of some specialized cadres.

[Ahmad] At every anniversary of the revolution for the past 2 years you recalled Egypt's role in Yemen and affirmed the Yemeni people's gratitude for that role which contributed to the consolidation of the republican regime?

[Salih] We did not only recall Egypt's role in Yemen, but we invited Egyptian Army commanders who participated in the defense of the revolution to attend our anniversary celebrations. We invited them so that they can see the fruit of their heroism, and we officially invited the [Egyptian] chief of staff, Lieutenant General Al-'Urabi.

No one can deny us the special relations with Egypt or the special relations between the Egyptian and Yemeni peoples. Egypt enjoys political and scientific influence and prestige in the Arab group. The special relationship between the two peoples lies in the mixing of Yemeni and Egyptian blood to consolidate the republican regime. There is a great deal of technical, cultural, and social cooperation. We have more than 18,000 Egyptian teachers who are making a great contribution to Yemen's current educational revolution. There is economic cooperation betwen us on several levels. I believe that Egypt now, as always, has positive stands toward its brothers in the Arab homeland, and that is not new for Egypt. I believe that whenever Egypt takes one step forward toward its Arab nation, the Arabs must take a similar step toward Egypt.

The Yemeni stand in that regard is clear: We support the restoration of Arab solidarity for it is the correct path for facing the challenges.

[Ahmad] Mr President, I thank you for the time you granted *Al-Musawwar*. We wish Yemen stability and prosperity.

Congolese President Meets Press on Visit

NC101142 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1045 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Excerpts] Cairo, 10 Mar (MENA) — President Denis Sassou-Nguesso, president of the Congo and current OAU chairman, has stated that the OAU consistently calls for peaceful settlement of problems among countries, not resorting to force.

Speaking at a news conference in Cairo today at the conclusion of his official visit to Egypt, the Congolese president said the OAU is urging a peaceful settlement of the Chadian problem and is working constantly for the sake of Chad's independence, its territorial integrity, and the achievement of national reconciliation among Chadians through negotiations. He added that the struggle in Chad, which has been going on for almost 20 years, has seen a number of changes. He expressed hope that national reconciliation among Chadian parties will be achieved.

President Sassou-Nguesso began his news conference by saying his official visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt is within the framework of strengthening bilateral relations, which the Congo is seeking to strengthen. He added that he had discussed a number of issues with President Husni Mubarak and Egyptian officials, stressing that the talks resulted in determination to strengthen and boost relations in various fields. He noted that he had found political desire and ability to expand bilateral cooperation at the political, economic, and other levels and to strengthen them within the context of the OAU. He added that he had found Egypt's officials enthusiastic about working together within the framework of the Nonaligned Movement, the United Nations, and other international organizations, confronting problems such as racial discrimination, Middle East problems, deteriorating situations in Africa, and other problems. Concluding his remarks, the president expressed satisfaction with the results of his visit to Egypt.

Asked about the purpose of the African minisummit opening in Cairo tomorrow, Wednesday, the Congolese president said the meeting of the OAU Bureau will assess achievements since the last African summit in Addis Ababa and what can be achieved in the coming stage. [passage omitted]

Asked about the conclusion of a peace agreement for the Horn of Africa region, the Congolese president said the OAU is working for African unity and hopes there will be peace and detente among the African parties. He added that this does not necessarily imply peace and detente in the form of a treaty, but that the OAU must achieve this objective.

Regarding Africa's debt problem, Sassou-Nguesso said this is one of the most important problems facing the OAU. Prices are dropping sharply, and consequently the burden of indebtedness is increasing. He stressed that this indebtedness is not as great as that in other areas and that the overall African debt is between $170 and $175 billion.

He added that in view of the African countries' weak economies and the sharp drop in exports in the international market, this debt is burdening Africa when prices of imported manufactured goods have remained steady and prices of exports have dropped. This is complicating the issue. The Congolese president added that the African countries have demanded special treatment for Africa's debts because the situation on the continent is unique. He noted that negotiations with creditor countries have not yet achieved tangible progress. [passage omitted]

Closed Meeting Held

NC101200 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1148 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Cairo, 10 Mar (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak had a closed meeting today with Congolese President Denis Sassou-Nguesso at the Presidential Palace in Heliopolis. The session lasted 20 minutes, after which the two presidents signed a joint communique.

Joint Statement Issued

NC101238 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1159 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Cairo, 10 Mar (MENA) — Egypt and the People's Republic of the Congo have stressed that just and lasting peace in the Middle East can only be achieved through Israel's withdrawal from all Arab territories occupied since June 1967, including Holy Jerusalem, and recognition of the Palestinian people's national rights, including their right to self-determination. The two sides emphasized their support for respect for Chad's sovereignty and territorial integrity. They strongly condemned racial discrimination in South Africa and called for Namibia's immediate independence.

These assertions came in a press statement issued at the conclusion of the official visit to Egypt by Congolese President Denis Sassou-Nguesso and read by Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif.

Here is the text of the statement:

At the conclusion of the official visit of Congolese President Denis Sassou-Nguesso to the Arab Republic of Egypt, President Mubarak and President Denis Sassou-Nguesso signed a joint communique, dated 10 March 1987, which reflects the strength and depth of their bilateral relations. The joint communique underlines the two presidents' strong desire to strengthen bilateral relations in all fields and the Congolese president's appreciation for the efforts of Egyptian experts in the Congo. The two parties note identical views on African and international affairs, particularly in their commitment to the OAU Charter and principles.

The two parties stress their support for respect for Chad's sovereignty and territorial integrity. They strongly condemn racial discrimination and its odious practices and agree to continue to exert every effort to eliminate racial discrimination, achieve immediate independence for Namibia, and establish a just and democratic society in South Africa.

The two sides emphasize the need to implement the UN program for the economic revival of Africa. They stress that a just and durable peace cannot be attained in the Middle East until Israel withdraws from all Arab territories occupied since June 1967, including Jerusalem, and the national rights of the Palestinian

people, including their right to self-determination, are acknowledged. The two sides stress that the PLO must participate in any international peace conference on the Middle East.

Noting the passage of 10 years since the Arab-African summit, the two sides note the importance of strengthening Arab-African cooperation.

President Mubarak has accepted President Sassou-Nguesso's invitation to visit the People's Republic of the Congo; the date of the visit to be fixed later.

Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, and Antoine Ndinga-Oba, the Congolese minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, have signed a cultural, technical, and scientific agreement providing the framework for cooperation between the two countries.

Additional Reportage

For reportage on the arrival in Cairo of Denis Sassou-Nguesso, president of the Congo and current chairman of the OAU, and his attendance at a dinner banquet hosted by President Husni Mubarak, see the Inter-African Affairs section of the 10 March Middle East & Africa *Daily Report*.

USSR Debt Talks May Be Postponed 'Indefinitely'

PM110853 Cairo AL-SH'AB in Arabic 3 Mar 87 p 1

[Report by Mustafa al-Safani: "Silent Crisis Between Egypt and Soviet Union; Americans Alone Undertake Turbines Repair and Government Ignores Soviets"]

[Text] Informed sources have told *Al-Sha'b* that so far no date has been decided for the fourth round of talks between Egypt and the Soviet Union that was scheduled for 1 March. As of yesterday, the Soviet Embassy in Cairo had not received any information from the Egyptian side on the Egyptian delegation's visit to Moscow to complete the talks regarding the problem of settling Egyptian military debts. This indicates there is a difference between the viewpoints of the two countries that might result in the talks being postponed indefinitely, according to the interpretation of the sources.

Within this framework *Al-Sha'b* has learned the Egyptian Government has expressed many reservations about the Soviet proposal to solve the debts problem, which stipulates that military debts be settled over a period of 25 years with a grace period of 5 years provided that installments be paid from half the revenue of Egyptian exports to the Soviet Union. A Soviet source told *Al-Sha'b* that while Egypt is repaying its military debts to the United States at an interest rate of 14 percent, the Egyptian side is refusing to pay the military debts to Moscow at interest rates ranging from 2 to 2.5 percent and in fact calling for the interest rate to be completely waived.

The Americans are now repairing the lower parts (the wheels) of the High Dam turbines despite Soviet experts' warning to the Egyptian Government that the Americans are not fully familiar with the secrets of the dam turbines, which could lead to a disaster. But the government ignored all the technical and scientific data the Soviets provided.

The Americans have finished repairing the first turbine amid complete secrecy in a manner threatening the duration of the turbine's working life. It is known that the turbine repairs are being carried out through U.S. funding totaling 100 million dollars as an outright grant.

Al-Sha'b has also learned that President Mubarak has agreed to the resumption of the activities of the Egyptian-Soviet friendship association provided it is chaired by Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, instead of its current chairman Muhammad 'Abd al-Salam al-Zayyat, a matter that is meeting with strong reservations from Soviet circles.

AL-AKHBAR Views Pollard Case, U.S.-Israeli Ties

JN101114 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 8 Mar 87 p 5

[Editorial: "The Spy Case and Relations Between Washington and Tel Aviv"]

[Text] When it recruited Jonathan Pollard, the former U.S. Navy Intelligence analyst, to obtain a large number of documents from him, Israel knew, of course, that it was spying against the United States, its strongest major ally. Otherwise, it would have been impossible and illogical for the Israeli military leadership and the competent authorities to have obtained 1,000 very confidential U.S. documents.

However, as an Israeli newspaper has said Israel was not only spying against the United States, but has also deceived it and played the role of the innocent party. Moreover, the promotion of two Israeli officials involved in this case, Rafa'el Eytan and Avi'em Sela', shows the Israelis' indifference toward the Americans.

The U.S. court has passed a life sentence on Pollard, and 5-year imprisonment on his wife, after they were indicted in the most serious espionage case in U.S. history. This is not the end, but, as the U.S. attorney general said, should be the beginning of further investigations into Israeli espionage activities in the United States. The trial showed that Washington deals with Israel as though it were the 53rd [figure as published] state of the union.

There are two important facts to bear in mind. First, U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger said, in his testimony in the Pollard case, that a too-strong Israel would heighten the possibility of war in the Middle East. Second, this case and other previous cases should affirm to the U.S. Administration and people that the continuation of this relationship in this peculiar way, which began when Lyndon Johnson assumed power in the United States, will never be in the interest of anyone except Israel, and will hurt no one but the United States.

AL-AKHBAR Cited on Student Unrest in Al-Fayyum

NC110618 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] The Cairo newspaper *Al-Akhbar* has reported that Al-Fayyum was the scene of student demonstrations and unrest on Monday [9 March]. The paper noted that security forces were called in and 46 students were arrested. However, the security forces later released 39 of the students on bail.

Naval Forces To Purchase French-Italian Missiles

JN102039 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 9 Mar 87 p 1

[Text] Cairo — In a statement to *Al-Qabas*, an informed military source said the Egyptian naval forces have concluded a contract to purchase a very sophisticated anti-ship missile called *Automan* within the framework of Egypt's policy to reinforce means of defending its coasts.

If programmed before launching the range of this missile will be 100 km. If programmed before launching with the data updated on its way toward the target the range of the missile will be 165 km. The head of the missile weighs 210 kg and is designed to cause a breach and then to explode to cause greater destruction. The *Automan* battery consists of a command unit and of two to four launcher units. This weapon is made jointly by France and Italy.

Communique, Reports on Continued Fighting

Communique on 10 Mar Activity

JN101716 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Communique No 2,599 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 10 March 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With the determination of believers who love their homeland and who pledged to the people to safeguard their free and honorable life, our valiant Armed Forces have continued their heroic struggle to defend Iraq, its sovereignty, and freedom.

The following is a summary of the activities of last night and today:

1. In the III Army Corps sector, a group of the scoundrel Khomeyniites were killed opposite our positions, five vehicles were destroyed; another vehicle was damaged; the occupants of the vehicles were killed; and three shovels [preceding word in English], a number of infantry positions, and an ammunition dump were destroyed.

2. The victorious VII Army Corps units directed their fire at enemy positions in front our units in the III Army Corps sector to support our troops in that sector and to participate in the great harvest of the rotten Khomeyniite heads.

Our forces also destroyed several infantry positions and individual shelters, killed the enemy crews in them, and ignited fires on the enemy side.

3. The forces of charlatan Khomeyni today shelled the Shandri residential complex with long-range artillery. As a result, the complex and civilian property were damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 10 Mar 87

'Large Maritime Target' Hit

JN101949 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1942 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Baghdad, 10 Mar (INA) — Iraqi warplanes carried out a successful raid on a large maritime target near the Iranian coast at 2045 [1745 GMT] today. In a statement to INA, an Iraqi military spokesman said Iraqi warplanes dealt an accurate and effective blow to the maritime target and returned safely to base.

Plane Downing Claims Denied

102015 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2005 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Baghdad, 10 Mar (INA) — An Iraqi military spokesman has denied Iranian claims of downing Iraqi aircraft today. The spokesman described the Iranian claims on downing three aircraft in the past 2 days as sheer lies.

Attack on Mountain 'Crushed'

JN110805 Baghdad INA Arabic 0710 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Northern sector, 11 Mar (INA) — An INA correspondent in the V Army Corps sector has said that the Iraqi forces have crushed an Iranian attempt against the (Kurd Ku) mountain peak, and that the situation was settled in their favor at 1510 [1210 GMT] yesterday, Tuesday.

The correspondent said the forces of the 96th Iraqi Brigade confronted the Iranian attempt with all types of light, medium, and heavy weapons and annihilated most of the attacking Iranian force. The Iranian remnants fled, leaving behind hundreds of dead, weapons, and large quantities of ammunition and military vehicles.

The correspondent added that the situation is now completely settled after the Iranian force, which began its offensive against the Iraqi forces on the (Kurd Ku) mountain peak at 0500, was crushed. He pointed out that the bodies of the Iranian dead are scattered over several areas of the battlefield.

In a statement to Tehran radio last night, an Iranian military commander admitted the effectiveness of the Iraqi counterattack on his forces in the area.

Air Force Commander Interviewed on Air Raids

PM081437 London AL-TADAMUN in Arabic 7 March 86 p 8-10

[Interview with Iraqi Air Force Commander Lieutenant General Hamid Sha'ban by Ahmad 'Abd al-Majid in Baghdad — date not given]

[Excerpt] [introductory passage omitted] Less than 24 hours after an Iraqi Armed Forces General Command spokesman announced that Iran had violated the principle of not bombing cities and despite the series of Iranian attacks on the Jasim River sector in southern Iraq and the increasing number of operations required of the Iraqi Air Force in such circumstances — which according to an Iraqi communique totaled 308 sorties — Air Force Lieutenant General Hamid Sha'ban, commander of the Iraqi Air Force and Air Defense, spent more than an hour with *Al-Tadamun* talking about the cities war and the possibilities of resuming Iraqi air raids on Iranian cities.

The office is elegant, but simple and austere. In one corner stands a glass cabinet containing the high-ranking medals and awards Lieutenant General Sha'ban has received. In the middle of these is the First Class al-Rafidayn Medal which President Saddam Husayn awarded to the Air Force Command and its staff. On his desk lie some maps and a number of books topped by a copy of the Koran, from which Lieutenant General Sha'ban regularly recites some verses. He began the talk:

Sha'ban: We are aware of the responsibilities of the expatriate press, especially the newspapers published in London. They are among the voices that speak the truth. On behalf of all Air Force personnel I wish to salute the role of *Al-Tadamun* and bless the efforts of those working in it.

Al-Tadamun: Thank you, Lieutenent General. We would like to point out that we, too, follow the Iraqi Air Force's standard of performance. We have a full picture of its effectiveness and its strategic role in the Gulf war. We also know many things about its operations deep inside Iran, which covered some 80 Iranian cities. Could you tell us about the strategic importance of those cities, and what do they represent to the Iranian war machine?

Sha'ban: First, the cities war, as the world knows, is not an end itself. Rather it is the result of the intransigence of the Iranian side and its indulgence in bombarding our border towns and attacking our capital, Baghdad, with missiles. The Iranian regime has already been warned by the most senior personality in our country, namely, President Saddam Husayn. We said that our refraining from responding [to attacks] does not imply weakness on our part. Rather, we are upholding our principles and showing our humanitarianism. We are striving to show the whole world that we do not provoke nor do we get provoked to retaliate for one reason or another. We have warned several times that these attacks on our towns are not something customary between fighting armies. Rather, they are an expression of a rancorous and shaken spirit; they are one aspect of military defeat.

When our patience ran out and we discussed the matter at length at military and political command meetings, and when the Iranian enemy persisted in its attacks on Basra and the rest of the Iraqi towns and launched a new armed attack on our international borders, we then found it necessary to put an end to these actions to defend our towns and borders. We were instructed to strike severely at the enemy sources and concentrations that take cover in towns, as well as at the vital targets that provide support for the Iranian forces in those towns. This was carried out on a large scale that covered most of Iran. We sought to impress upon the public that war is not a game, so that the Iranian leaders will understand that we can turn the tables on them at any moment with an intensity and force that reflect our capability. This was only a warning to the Iranians, and when the time comes the punishment will be even more severe. I would like through *Al-Tadamun* to warn the Iranian peoples that the decisive and crushing response has not yet come. If their rulers further indulge in aggression, no Iranian town or village will be too far for our blows. Undoubtedly we have sufficient capabilities to carry out this threat. We have already clearly and frankly warned that Iraq cannot remain the target of a barbaric aggression for many years without reaching a result and coming to a conclusion. We have found that the only way is to fight Iran on its own ground, and we have done so, be it through hitting at its towns, economic centers, or hideouts.

Al-Tadamun: What is the effect of the Iraqi Air Force operations deep inside Iran on the progress of the conventional military operations in the field?

Sha'ban: There is no doubt that the Iranian fighter feels that his rear lines have collapsed and are threatened, and that the home he left behind and thought was safe is threatened, too, because military concentrations in the rear are also being hit. We believe that shifting the battle to the rear lines is a necessary action to make the aggressors on the front lines feel their rear lines are similarly threatened and constantly vulnerable to total destruction. This is from the standpoint of morale. As for the operational standpoint, we know the Iranian towns and economy are the source of supply for aggression. Therefore, we must attack the roots and sources of evil in the rear.

Al-Tadamun: After the uncovering of the U.S.-Israeli arms deal with Iran, it has become clear that Iran was looking for means to neutralize the Iraqi Air Force. Has it done that?

Sha'ban: Certainly Iran is not alone in desiring to neutralize and paralyze the Iraqi Air Force, which has become an effective and influential force in the war and in the area in general. There are many forces that desire this, especially Israel, which regards the Iraqi Air Force as a direct threat to its existence. On the other hand, Iran has been daily witnessing the results of the development of this Air Force. In despair, it has sought all sources of armament and gone a long way in its submissiveness and servility to world Zionism, Western imperialism, or U.S. imperialism. It has sought to neutralize this gigantic weapon. It is a known fact that Zionist arms shipments to Iran consisted of all types of antiaircraft weapons, including the maintenance of aircraft, and the supply of Iran with fighters or technical know-how, which the enemy obtained from Israel, from its allies, from some Arabs, and from states that we considered friendly in the past. We have accurate information that we will reveal when the time comes. It will show that they have directly supplied Iran with large amounts of know-how and materiel.

It was clearly evident that Iran was supplied with large amounts of modern antiaircraft weapons in the past 2 years. It was natural for Iraq to watch this situation and prepare itself for it on every occasion to take the necessary steps. As the experts know, the Iraqi Air Force has become stronger and gained skills despite all the advantages Iran obtained, not only during the past few months but also during the past years. Iraq has boosted the effectiveness of its Air Force and stepped up its activities to a degree that amazed the world and angered Iran's allies, be it the Zionists, the Arabic-speaking ones, or other countries. They believed the Iraqi Air Force, which is the shield of the Arab nation, would be weakened or at least neutralized in some areas, if not in all of them. When they found out that the Air Force has become more effective and extended its operations to the Iranian rear, they alleged that certain quarters were providing Iraq with technical resources and personnel, who take part in these operations or provide support in battle. But the world knows that Iraq has good relations with all the world countries and, thanks to its wise leadership, will remain capable of obtaining all the powerful weapons to ensure that it can defend its borders and carry out its duties toward its nation.

Al-Tadamun: Is it possible to know the number of Iranian *Hawk* missiles that the Iraqi Air Force has been able to destroy?

Sha'ban: In fact a large portion of the Iranian air defense means has been destroyed recently. I cannot give exact figures, but I can say we have been able to neutralize most of this modern weaponry, be it aircraft, improved *Hawk* antiaircraft missiles, *(Skycar)* missiles, or all the antiaircraft weapons that Iran obtained from certain countries. God willing, in the future we will be able to neutralize and destroy all the weapons that Iran receives. We are closely watching this operation and have full information on it.

Al-Tadamun: Obviously the Iranian rear is vast and very distant. Can we know exactly the targets hit by the Iraqi Air Force raids since the beginning of the escalation of the cities war, which began on 9 January?

Sha'ban: Certainly we can provide you with a list of the types of targets. It is known that our Air Force is capable of reaching any target in the Iranian rear. This has actually happened in the destruction of Larak at the far end of the Arab Gulf, the Neka power station near the Soviet borders, and other targets in distant parts of Iran. We select our targets in accordance with a studied plan. I would like to affirm that all the Iranian strategic targets in all the distant points are within reach of Iraqi blows.

Al-Tadamun: Regarding the daring and vital operations that the Iraqi Air Force carried out, the question being asked concerns the standard to which this weapon has developed. Can we know some details of the high technical capabilities of the Iraqi Air Force?

Sha'ban: What counts are the results. The results that the Iraqi Air Force has achieved are the net total of accumulated experience, and they reflect the unbounded support of the higher command. The results are also due to certain local industries and advanced development work. This is in addition to the leadership that God has bestowed upon Iraq in the person of President Saddam Husayn, whether through his directives or direct support. All this has given us the ability to develop the Air Force and to continue developing it and benefitting from its immense resources and services.

Al-Tadamun: Before meeting you we surveyed the number of the Iranian towns and the strikes dealt to them by the Iraqi Air Force. We have noticed that the Iraqi raids have concentrated in particular on Isfahan, followed by Qom, Dezful, Tabriz, and then the rest of the towns. Is there a military explanation for this concentration?

Sha'ban: It is known that Isfahan is the second most important Iranian city, where the military industries and air bases are established. The forces of aggression are launched from there. Therefore, it is of extreme importance for the Air Force. Next in importance comes cities such as Tehran and Dezful, which is near the front and contains large military etablishments. Some other cities contain oil refineries, industrial and economic establishments, and guards camps. These cities are well known to us and our operations against them are carried out in accordance with instructions we receive from the quarters concerned.

Al-Tadamun: We listen to the Iraqi military communiques, and what always draws our attention in connection with the Iraqi Air Force operations in the Iranian rear is the announcement that "our aircraft have returned safely to base, thank God." Can we know how effective the U.S. *Hawk* missile is against the wide-ranging Iraqi Air Force operations?

Sha'ban: *Hawk* missiles and other weapons are abundantly available in Iran; they are received from various sources. But our experience and know-how in dealing with these weapons is highly effective.

Al-Tadamun: The Iraqi statement announcing acceptance of the temporary suspension of the cities war contained a warning to Iran that Iraq will use its right to respond strongly if the terms of this suspension are violated. What form will such a reponse take, and when will it take place?

Sha'ban: I think I have said in my answer to a previous question that our response will be violent and stronger than before in view of the Iranian enemy's intransigence and reneging on his pledge to accept in principle the terms of halting the cities war. But, unfortunately, this is the custom of the Iranian rulers — falsehoods and prevarications. Perhaps the Iranian rulers realize that Iraq does not mince its words. Rather, there is a plan and timing that has been studied by the higher command. It will be carried out at a suitable time.

Al-Tadamun: Can we assume that Iran's violation of Iraq's conditions on the temporary suspension of the cities war and the resumed shelling of Basra (Iraq announced that 58 shells were directed against the town of Basra on the night of 22-23 February 1987) is connected with the recent attacks by the Iranian forces on the same night on the Jasim River (south of the Fish Lake)?

Sha'ban: Certainly the failure of the Iranian enemy to make new gains in the recent battles has prompted him to seek revenge on certain Iraqi cities. Perhaps the enemy imagined that he could affect the morale of the Iraqi people and the steadfastness of Basra by such action. This, in fact, confirms our belief that by such action the Iranian leaders demonstrate that they do not know their interests and the interests of their people. Their actions have betrayed their emotions. There is no doubt that their strike at our cities confirms their weakness and recklessness, as well as their distorted thoughts. I do not believe they will reap any benefits from their actions; on the contrary, they will lose a lot eventually.

Al-Tadamun: Is it possible to estimate the total distance that Iraqi aircraft have covered in their operations in the Iranian rear since the decision to strike at Iranian cities?

Sha'ban: (With a broad smile on his face, he answered.) This requires a computer. But it can be found out from the course of operations carried out by our aircraft and can be calculated on the map. What is important to us is that the whole of Iran has been hit by Iraqi raids. Hardly a city, vital point, or small town has not been included in the Iraqi strikes.

Al-Tadamun: Certain Iranian sources at the United Nations said that 75 Iranian cities have been hit by Iraqi raids, while other sources said 65 cities. Our survey shows that they were 80 cities. Is it possible to know the total number of these cities according to your information?

Sha'ban: The Iraqi military communiques hide nothing. What they say is the truth, whether with regard to casualties or the air strikes, and even sometimes with regard to the number of raiding planes. Our command has been persistent here. There is nothing hidden. I believe you can know the exact number from the communiques issued by the Armed Forces General Command.

Ramadan Returns From Bulgaria, Makes Statement
JN081328 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1730 GMT 8 Mar 87

[Text] Baghdad, 8 Mar (INA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, and the accompanying delegation returned to Baghdad last night following a 3-day visit to Bulgaria.

In a statement to INA Taha Yasin Ramadan said he conveyed a message from President Saddam Husayn to Bulgarian Chairman Todor Zhivkov on bilateral relations, the pride of Iraq's leadership and people in the continuous development of bilateral cooperation in all fields, and Iraq's eagerness to consolidate and expand this cooperation in the future.

He added that the Bulgarian chairman had affirmed his country's desire to expand cooperation with Iraq under all circumstances and had referred to the Bulgarian leadership's satisfaction with the advanced development of the existing bilateral relations.

The first deputy prime minister said the results of the visit will greatly contribute to promoting the ties of friendship and relations of cooperation. The minutes of the meetings of the joint Iraqi-Bulgarian committee for economic, technical, scientific, trade, and cultural cooperation for 1987 and the future were signed. A number of contracts for implementing some development projects in Iraq were also signed.

Ramadan said: We informed the Bulgarian leaders, headed by Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the Bulgarian Communist Party and chairman of the State Council, about the latest developments in the Iraq-Iran war and affirmed that the Iraqis, who defended their sovereignty for more than 6 and 1/2 years and inflicted very heavy losses on the Iranian aggressors, are capable of defending their homeland no matter how long the war continues. The Iraqis will continue to inflict bitter defeats on the Iranian regime and annihilate its defeated forces, and it will simultaneously continue to exert serious efforts to end the war and establish peace.

Taha Yasin Ramadan explained that the Bulgarian party and state leadership has highly valued Iraq's peaceful stands and its continued serious efforts to establish peace. It praised the five principles included in President Saddam Husayn's message to the Tehran leaders, which stress the Iraqi leadership's serious desire to bring about a complete and just end to the war.

The RCC member pointed out that the Bulgarian leaders understand very well Iraq's political, economic, and social reality. They affirm that Bulgaria's relations with Iraq will continue to develop in line with the relations of friendship between President Saddam Husayn and Chairman Todor Zhivkov and their continuous directives for continued expanded bilateral cooperation to achieve the common interests of the two friendly peoples.

The delegation accompanying Taha Yasin Ramadan consisted of 'Aziz Salih al-Numan, minister of agriculture and agrarian reform and head of the Iraqi side to the Iraqi-Bulgarian committee; the under secretaries of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Irrigation; and a number of officials in various ministries.

Sudan's Siwar al-Dhahab Concludes Visit, Departs

JN091511 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Excerpt] Amman — His Excellency Marshal 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab, former head of the Sudanese Transitional Military Council, left Amman for his home this morning following a visit to Jordan at the invitation of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan during which he met with His Majesty King Husayn. He also met with a number of senior officials and representatives of economic, cultural, and social officials, and visited a number of historical and cultural sites in the Kingdom. [passage omitted]

Labor Minister Returns From Bagdhad Meeting

JN101704 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Excerpt] Eng Khalid al-Haj Hasan, minister of labor and social development, returned to Amman today after attending part of the 15th session of the Arab Labor Conference currently being held in Baghdad. The minister was nominated by the Arab group to chair the 73rd session of the international labor conference scheduled to be held in Geneva next June. This took place after a vote between Al-Haj Hasan, who won 15 votes and Antoine Jubran, Syrian social affairs and labor minister, who won 4 votes. [Passage omitted]

Dudin Assesses 5-Year West Bank Program

JN100852 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 10 Mar p 1

[Text] Amman — Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Marwan Dudin Monday said that the real challenge of the Jordanian-sponsored five-year plan for the occupied territories was to activate effective mechanisms for spending money on projects which would benefit the largest possible number of Arab inhabitants and he emphasised that the programme had been initiated to draw world attention to the plight of the Palestinians who, he said, were in "bad shape" and needed urgent help.

However, he stressed that although Jordan would welcome help in financing the programme, the Kingdom would "not accept any contributions with constraints or strings." He did not say whether or not Jordan had received any conditional offers to help finance the $1.3 billion five-year plan for the Israeli-held territories, but spoke with optimism about aid pledges from Britain, France, West Germany, Italy and the United States, although he gave no figures.

The minister said that the contributions were not expected to fall short of expectations and reiterated that Jordan's main concern was to see real benefits for the Arab population living under Israeli rule. He said that whether the funds were channelled through Jordan or via international organisations and voluntary societies was not the main issue as long as the Palestinian people received the support they so badly needed.

Addressing the Monday Press Circle, Mr. Dudin explained that in the absence of a national executive body in the West Bank, Jordan had recently divided the West Bank into eight districts and formed committees to supervise the implementation and execution of development projects.

The committees, grouping senior Jordanian Government employees appointed before the 1967 Israeli occupation and private sector individuals, would largely have a supervisory role but at a later date would also put forward proposals for future projects in consultation with local experts in different sectors — health, education, agriculture etc.

Mr. Dudin described the new system as "flexible" in that it could accommodate different needs as they arose and could be open to changes if necessary. These committees will by and large follow tried and tested procedures used in the East Bank for issuing tenders, and for purchases. They will also act as watchdogs against any possible malpractice by certifying that contractors have completed phases of projects before payments are forwarded by the Jordanian Government via the Cairo-Amman Bank in Nabulus.

Stressing the need for accountability on all levels, Mr. Dudin said that all allocations for the development programme had been carefully prepared and would be spent properly and monitored.

He conceded that the plan was a new departure and that it would not be easy to implement.

On projects for the Gaza Strip, the minister said that they would be conducted through a charitable society chaired by former Mayor of Gaza Rashad Al-Shawwa. The Gaza Strip area of operations is listed as a separate region in addition to the eight districts in the West Bank.

Syrian Source Denies Death of 3 Hostages

JN101841 Al-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic
8 Mar 87 pp 1, 20

[By Husayn Hamiyah]

[Text] Beirut — A highly placed source in the Syrian forces operating in Lebanon has categorically denied the news disseminated on hostage issue, particularly relating to the presence of Terry Waite in 'Anjar and the death of three hostages in an alleged storming of the Al-Bastah Barracks which was handed over to the Syrian forces without a fight. He stressed this news is absolutely baseless.

The source expressed surprise over the dissemination of such news and said: The only purpose of such news is to undermine the objectives of the security plan that was implemented in West Beirut.

The source told *Al-Khalij* that the Syrian forces were given the abovementioned barracks in the presence of scores of Arab and foreign reporters.

In a related development, a Lebanese source close to Syrian circles expressed surprise that the so-called Hashim al-Mu'alla was mentioned as the supervisor of the 'Ammiq Barracks in the Al-Biqa' area and that the task of this barracks was training people in kidnapping operations. The source said Hashim al-Mu'alla is the name of the commander of the special Syrian forces in Lebanon who led the Yanta battle during which the Israeli invasion forces' advance toward Al-Masna' was halted in 1982.

The source was also surprised over linking the names of clans to hostage issues and said the Mashik and Sallum clans have nothing to do with the village of Nabha. The Mashik clan is in Kafr Silwan and the Sallum clan is in areas east of Ba'labakk. He added it is untrue that any of the 'Ulu clan is in (Farraj) Tarayya because the clan which is in Tarayya is the Hamiyah clan, while the 'Ulu clan is in the Al-Hirmil area.

It is noteworthy that AFP cited an FRG Foreign Ministry spokesman in Bonn as saying that reports disseminated about the death of two West German hostages in Beirut are mere press conjecture.

Paris Paper Interviews Syria's Kan'an

PM110814 Paris LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS in French
6 Mar 87 p 20

[Interview with General Ghazi Kan'an, chief of the security and surveillance department of the Syrian forces in Lebanon, in Beirut — date not given]

[Text] *Le Quotidien*: Some 10 days after the Syrian troops entered West Beirut, what is your initial assessment of this operation?

Ghazi Kan'an: West Beirut was experiencing a crisis. I arrived on the 2d day of fighting and I saw the scale of the tragedy. The city was deserted, its inhabitants were hiding in shelters, and there were armed elements everywhere. Private and public property was being plundered, and the citizens' basic rights were being violated. It was essential for us to end the fighting and help our people.

I asked the various leaders to stop the massacre. I also asked them to tour the area with me. They tried to play for time.

We finally toured all the new demarcation lines on foot and by car. We asked the fighters to stop fighting. The next day I visited Prime Minister Karami to examine security measures with him. At the end of that meeting, we agreed to deploy a Lebanese Army unit, backed by the Syrians, at strategic points to prevent the resumption of fighting and to monitor the situation in the field. We then invited all the party leaders to a meeting and set a time for implementation of the plan to begin. However, after the announcement of these measures, we were surprised by the resumption of fighting in all districts of West Beirut at the very time when the security force was scheduled to be deployed there.

The party leaders and chiefs then went to Damascus and urgently requested more effective participation by the Syrian forces and we responded to their appeal.

We gave the fighters 48 hours to leave their headquarters. We were very clear about the measures we would take if there was any violence. We gave them that time to avoid incidents. However, when we occupied some headquarters when the deadline expired, we found armed elements. They tried to prevent the army from accomplishing its mission. It reacted in the necessary way.

Le Quotidien: All those who were fighting each other are Syrian allies. Could you not, therefore, have prevented that fighting?

Ghazi Kan'an: I believe that the PSP and Amal were determined to prevent this war and they tried to prevent it several times. But they failed to prevent it in the end because their fighters in the field refused to obey them. Even after they officially agreed to conclude a cease-fire, there were kidnappings, plunder, and even fighting despite the presence of the security force which had already been deployed.... If we had not entered the city, the fighting would not have stopped.

Le Quotidien: Did the Syrian forces not enter West Beirut to save the Amal Movement which was losing ground?

Ghazi Kan'an: We came to save the city and to end the fighting. The aim was to save everybody from disaster.

Le Quotidien: However, some people believe your entry into Beirut was illegal....

Ghazi Kan'an: We came to Lebanon in 1976 at the request of the legal government. And we came to Beirut in reply to a call for help whereas the whole world was indifferent to this city's tragedy.

Le Quotidien: Why did you go back on your initial decision to

include the southern suburb in your area of deployment?

Ghazi Kan'an: There was no such decision. Our mission is to end the war in West Beirut.

Le Quotidien: Might you deploy your forces in the southern suburb later?

Ghazi Kan'an: No such decision was made. We are only entering areas where there is fighting.

Le Quotidien: What will happen to Beirut airport?

Ghazi Kan'an: We are guaranteeing the security of all citizens on the road to the airport. There are, therefore, no longer any problems on this subject but the decision to reopen the airport rests with the Lebanese.

Le Quotidien: Will the affair of the Western hostages be revived?

Ghazi Kan'an: This is not our priority and I have no information on this subject.

Le Quotidien: Some sections of the media say three Americans, one Indian, and two Germans were recently handed over to you?

Ghazi Kan'an: I do not believe so. I have no information on this subject.

Le Quotidien: Will the entry of Syrian troops into West Beirut have repercussions on the Lebanese-Syrian negotiations?

Ghazi Kan'an: It has nothing to do with those negotiations. The Syrian entry into West Beirut is intended to end the tragedy experienced by that city. The negotiations, however, are intended to find a national plan on which all Lebanese parties agree.

Le Quotidien: Will the massive Syrian presence in West Beirut have repercussions on the Christian sector in the east?

Ghazi Kan'an: East Beirut's fate is in the hands of the government and the Lebanese authorities.

Le Quotidien: The Syrian initiative in Lebanon seems to displease Iran....

Ghazi Kan'an: The Syrian deployment in West Beirut has nothing to do with Iran.

Le Quotidien: Nonetheless, there are the Hizballah....

Ghazi Kan'an: Hizballah is a Lebanese party and its fighters are Arabs, like the other Lebanese.

Le Quotidien: What happened in Al-Bastah? What was the reason for that massacre?

Ghazi Kan'an: We issued an ultimatum for all headquarters to be evacuated. Hizballah requested more time. We granted that because we wanted to solve the problems by political means. At 1645 hours on Tuesday [24 February], they told us they were ready. Our men went to the scene. Shots were fired at them. We subsequently discovered that, while our men were being deployed, armed elements remained on the spot and fired at them. Our forces had to respond: We felt pain over each Lebanese who was killed. But we had given them a warning first: All armed elements must be responsible for themselves.

Le Quotidien: Does that mean Hizballah is opposed to the Syrian deployment?

Ghazi Kan'an: No. It has promised to make our mission easier. What happened was due to the presence of armed elements. The Syrian forces were forced to react as they did, irrespective of the allegiance and identity of these armed elements.

Le Quotidien: Did Syria receive an international go-ahead to deploy its troops?

Ghazi Kan'an: We do not wait for permission from anybody before acting. It was the scale of the disaster that prompted our deployment.

Fadlallah on Lebanese Crisis, Iran, Syria

JN101211 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 7 Mar 87 p 7

[By 'Imad Judiyah in Beirut]

[Text] In an exclusive statement to *Al-Ittihad*, His Eminence Shaykh Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah said it is naive to believe the Lebanese file will be closed as a result of certain urgent solutions in the security field. He said what is going on in Lebanon is meant to cool down the Lebanese fire so that certain big formulas on both the regional and international levels might not be destroyed until a solution for the Middle East problem is found. Meanwhile, reports in both Damascus and Beirut referred to a conciliatory atmosphere in Lebanon, indicating that this month will be one of positive transformations in the course of the Lebanese crisis.

On the camps war, Fadlallah said a solution for this problem is connected with the Palestinian-Arab relations. He said it is difficult to talk about greater Beirut without a realistic solution to this problem.

On the hostages, he said this problem is not an internal Lebanese security issue but a very complicated political issue which cannot be solved by anyone in Lebanon.

On the entry of Syrian troops into southern Lebanon, Fadlallah said: Judging by certain information we have and the political background of the security plan, we have no proof of an imminent Syrian entry into southern Beirut because there is more than one political problem on the local and external levels preventing this entry. Therefore, the question does not arise, at least at present, given the announcement that the entry into Beirut was not to implement a comprehensive political plan but to solve a definite problem. There is nothing in southern Beirut which necessitates entry there.

Answering a question on efforts to implement the "greater Beirut" plan, Fadlallah said: We cannot confirm or deny such an issue because the political plans that were reached inside and outside Lebanon — plans that were shaken by the erosion of security in Beirut — are now earmarked for the greater Beirut plan. However, I do not believe the issue is as portrayed by the foreign media and the local politicians because there are many problems awaiting solutions, particularly the camps issue, which is subject to Arab-Palestinian relations. It is difficult to talk about greater Beirut without a realistic solution for the camps problem. For the time being at least, we are not hinting at a decisive solution, given the complicated relations between 'Arafat's PLO and Syria, which are basically concerned with any solutions for the Lebanese issue, be they comprehensive or partial solutions.

On the issue of the hostages in Lebanon and reports of their imminent release, Fadlallah said: I do not believe that reports on the hostages are based on accurate information, because we do not have information on their whereabouts despite our being at the center of the political and security situation in this society. Therefore, these reports are only speculations, dealing with probabilities. I still believe the hostage issue is not related to security. It cannot be solved in Lebanon. It is a very complicated issue which nobody in Lebanon can deal with, let alone solve. It is an issue that moves in the regional and international political cellars.

On reports about a Syrian-Iranian disagreement on the future work of Hizballah in Lebanon, Fadlallah said: I have no detailed information in this regard. However, I believe that every state in the world or in the region has its political allies in Lebanon. Iran is not the only one in this regard. Therefore, the strategic relations between Syria and Iran and their stands on certain issues in the region and on world political trends do not preclude certain problems and diverse views on the nature of lines that separate one state's positions from another.

On Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati's statement in which he said Iran is the most influential power in Lebanon, Fadlallah said: Perhaps this statement is intended to give the impression that no political solution in Lebanon should lead to political confusion that would reflect on the Iranian politics in this regard.

On whether there are genuine factors for an imminent solution in Lebanon, Fadlallah said: I believe the current phase might witness the outlines for a far-off solution for this complicated situation. This may be the first step in a 1,000 mile journey. We all know the Lebanese solution depends on a Middle East solution, and maybe on the Gulf War. Therefore, it is very difficult to imagine a solution for the Lebanese problem without a solution for the regional crisis for two reasons:

1. The organic connection between the Lebanese crisis and the crises in the region. The Palestinian issue is important in this regard because of the Palestinian people's presence and Lebanon's long borders with occupied Palestine. No doubt, according to international calculations, Lebanese territory will be one of the areas where a large number of Palestinians would settle.

2. Concocting a solution requires efforts to find a solution. Therefore, it is naive to believe the Lebanese file can be closed as a result of certain difficult situations or urgent solutions. They want to cool down the fire so that certain political formulas on the regional and international levels may not be destroyed. Meanwhile, efforts are underway to concoct a solution for when the regional and international parties meet to discuss the Middle East.

Hizballah Statement on Security in Suburb

NC101453 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1345 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Hizballah issued a statement this afternoon in which it affirmed that the security plan for West Beirut does not include the southern suburb. There is absolutely no need to introduce additional security measures into the suburb, the statement added, for the residential areas there have not experienced events like those which have taken place in West Beirut. Hizballah opined that the suburb issue is not so much one of the lines that cannot be crossed as it is linked to complex matters that must be handled with caution.

The statement concluded: Hizballah affirms its support for a just security. It also condemns every instance of injustice no matter from what source it might originate.

Junblatt Comments on Ties with Amal, Syria

NC101350 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1230 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] UPI has carried a statement by PSP leader Walid Junblatt on the current situation in Lebanon. Responding to a question, Junblatt said: I represent a legal party and conduct political activities in Beirut. The Communists and others also have legal parties. Our centers have been closed, and we have no problems at present in this regard. We will see, however, if we will be allowed to reopen our centers, at least the main ones, in the future.

Asked about the new security plan, Junblatt said: The plan is all right. He expressed hope that the plan will be expanded to other areas, including the southern suburb [of Beirut]. Asked whether the expansion of the security plan to the southern suburb would affect Syrian-Iranian relations, Junblatt said he does not know. He said: First and foremost, Lebanon is part of the Arab world, and we have close links with Syria. Though we appreciate the Iranian revolution, we are Arabs.

When asked about relations with Syria, Junblatt said: These relations are good. I will abide by the alliance with Syria, because we and Syria are facing several enemies, including the Phalangists and the Israelis.

On relations with the Amal Movement, Junblatt stressed there are no personal problems with the Amal Movement leader. There are, however, great political differences and disputes that he hopes will be solved peacefully. He said: If the Amal Movement wants this, we will sit down with them and discuss our

differences, from the south to the north. If they do not want this, I cannot force them.

Junblatt also said: It is silly to accept disarming the PSP. He asked: Why should we be disarmed while the others are armed to the teeth? We will not give up our arms until a political solution or settlement is reached.

Amal Leader Urges Syrian Deployment in Sidon

NC101815 Paris AFP in English 1748 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Excerpt] Beirut, March 10 (AFP) — A bomb exploded in Moslem-dominated West Beirut Tuesday for the first time since the arrival of a Syrian peacekeeping force two weeks ago, while a leader of the Shi'ite Amal militia called for Syrian troops to enter Sidon, capital of southern Lebanon.

Meanwhile witnesses said that 15 students of the American University of Beirut were taken from their beds at dawn Tuesday by Syrian troops and put under arrest.

The explosion, which rocked the Al-Hamra' commercial district, was triggered by two sticks of dynamite concealed in refuse, residents said. There were no casualties but the blast flew out shop windows.

Amal leader in south Lebanon Mahmud Faqih on Tuesday called for Syrian peacekeeping troops to extend their area of operation to Sidon, in a statement published Tuesday by the Moslem Lebanese daily *Al-Safir*.

He said the extension would "guarantee free circulation of (anti-Israeli) resistance fighters on the south road and would protect them from constant seizures of weapons in the Sidon region."

But he insisted that "the safety of other regions of south Lebanon must be undertaken by Amal." [passage omitted]

Lebanese Forces Calls for Syrian Withdrawal

NC101922 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] The Lebanese Forces today expressed the view that priority should be given to the liberation of all Lebanese territory from all foreign armies and armed forces, the presence of which constitutes the principal political and military burden of the Lebanese people as a whole. The Lebanese Forces declared that this objective can only be attained through the will of the Lebanese, freely exercised, without foreign hegemony. The solution will come neither from the East nor the West, but from within the borders of Lebanon. It will come about only when the occupied Lebanese areas are liberated and the Lebanese will is fully liberated.

The statement, which was released at the conclusion of the Lebanese Forces weekly meeting held under the chairmanship of Dr Samir Ja'ja', added: The Lebanese Forces are astonished by the political proposals that focus on trivial issues. Experience has proved that any such debate is futile under conditions of occupation and violations of sovereignty and independence, and at a time when the whole country faces a crisis of existence and destiny, following the serious violation of its constitutional institutions and national sovereignty by the illegitimate Syrian military entry into the western part of the capital.

The Lebanese Forces urged all Lebanese leaders to be vigilant, learn from past lessons, not to seek power through this or that foreign party, and not to blind themselves to the fact of Syrian and other occupations. They also urged them not to fall into the trap of seeking the way to salvation through those who are mainly responsible for the crisis and who continue to attempt to swallow up and annex Lebanon. They also called on them not to allow the Lebanese people to be the fuel that feeds the war of foreigners on Lebanese soil.

The Lebanese Forces drew attention to the new methods currently employed by the Syrian regime, which has learned from its past experiences. They reiterated their demand that a timetable be drawn up for the withdrawal of Syrian forces from Lebanon, beginning with a withdrawal from West Beirut as the first step.

The statement concluded: The Lebanese Forces, while emphasizing the priority accorded to liberation above all other Lebanese concerns, call on all Lebanese leaders to focus on this central goal. They also urge the prime minister, just once in his long political history so replete with negativism, to take positive action by submitting the government's resignation, after all its members have declared its failure and resigned either directly or indirectly. This would pave the way for a new government which would at least be capable of exercising a minimum degree of control over the crisis.

Iranian Delegation Meets With Muslim Leaders

LD101926 Tehran IRNA in English 1737 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Beirut, March 10, IRNA — A top-level Iranian delegation led by theologian member of the Council of Guardians Ayatollah Ahmad Jannati, met with some prominent Lebanese Muslim leaders in south Lebanon, among them Dr. 'Ali al-Khatib, here Tuesday.

During the meeting, 'Ali al-Khatib lauded the Islamic Republic of Iran for its support for the Islamic movement in Lebanon. In response, Ayatollah Jannati underlined the need for Lebanese Muslims to maintain their solidarity which he described as the "best means" for thwarting schemes of enemies. He also said that the Iranian Embassy and other officials are ready to help Lebanese strugglers resolve their difficulties.

Syrians Arrest 15 University Students 10 March

NC101619 Paris AFP in English 1615 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Beirut, March 10 (AFP) — Fifteen students of the American University of Beirut were taken from their beds at dawn Tuesday by Syrian troops and put under arrest, eyewitnesses here said.

The students, who live on the university campus, were all members of political organisations, including Hizballah (Party of God), the Druze Progressive Socialist Party, and the Shi'ite Amal Movement.

University officials refused to say whether they had consented to the entry of the Syrian troops on to the campus.

Syrian peacekeeping forces entered West Beirut on February 22 to quell infighting between pro-Syrian groups.

1 Student Released; 10 Held

NC101929 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] According to security sources, the Syrian forces have released Akram Farran, a student at the American University of Beirut. Farran had been among the group of university students detained by the Syrian forces earlier today because of their party affiliation and their relationship with pro-'Arafat groups, as claimed by Syrian sources. The Syrians continue to hold 10 other students.

'Some' Students Released

NC110701 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Quoting informed sources, AFP reports that the Syrian Forces released last night some students they had earlier taken from the American University campus. They still have three students in detention; two of them are Lebanese and the third is a Palestinian.

A Palestinian source explained that one of the Lebanese students is a former member of the Al-Murabitun movement, and the other is a member of the Islamic Unification Party in Tripoli [in northern Lebanon].

Dynamite Explodes Near Syrian Intelligence Office

NC101623 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Excerpt] Despite the new West Beirut security plan, which was allegedly established to preserve security and order, a series of explosions were reported today. A dynamite stick exploded opposite the King Hotel in Al-Rawshah, where Syrian intelligence personnel maintain an office. This same office had been the target of an explosive device a few days ago. Five Syrians were wounded in that blast. [passage omitted]

Syrian Intelligence Officer Killed in Tripoli

NC111036 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] According to information available to the Voice of Lebanon, Syrian forces in Tripoli today lowered the state of alert that had been imposed in the wake of the killing of two Syrian intelligence men in the Al-Tabbanah area early this week. These reports also note that a Syrian intelligence officer was killed last night in the 'Akkar region. Preparations are currently underway to transfer his body from a Tripoli hospital to Syria.

Meanwhile, Syrian forces have raided certain areas in Al-Tabbanah and detained a number of suspects.

Birri Repeats Conditions for Camps Solution

NC110636 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Yesterday, Minister Nabih Birri reiterated Amal's stand on the issue of the camps. He said there can be no solution to the issue of the camps without a [Palstinian] withdrawal from the areas east of Sidon. He also noted this position is irrevocable and irreversible. Minister Birri said the inhabitants of Zighdraya and nearby areas must return to their homes.

Birri's remarks followed his meeting with Colonel 'Ali Hammud, the head of the Syrian observers in Lebanon, yesterday.

14 Casualties in Amal-Palestinian Camps Clash

NC101215 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Acute tension prevails along the combat lines of the Beirut camps, as both Amal and Palestinian positions continue to exchange small- and medium-caliber weapons fire. Clashes involving the use of rockets and machine guns occurred along the Shatila combat lines at noon today. Press reports indicate that 4 people were killed and 10 others injured in the past few hours in the worst clashes in 2 months. According to these reports, the combatants used rockets and machine guns.

Soviet Charge, Official View Nonaligned Issues

NC101407 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1230 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Soviet Charge d'Affaires Yuriy Soslikov has met with Ambassador Samih al-Baba, director of political affairs at the Foreign Ministry. Foreign Ministry sources have said the talks dealt with Lebanon's stand on the issues to be discussed in the meeting of Nonaligned Movement foreign ministers in Brioni, Yugoslavia, in June. Soslikov also inquired about the reopening of Beirut International Airport, as hundreds of Lebanese students studying in the Soviet Union wish to return to Lebanon.

Polisario Secretary General Arrives in Damascus

JN101629 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1115 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] A high-level Polisario delegation headed by Brother Mohamed Abdelaziz, Polisario secretary general, arrived in Damascus at noon today on a visit to the Syrian Arab Republic at the invitation of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party National Command. He was received at Damascus International Airport by Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party; Comrade Mut'ib Shinan, member of the Ba'th Party National Command; Dr Husayn Abu Hamid, member of the Ba'th Party's Central Committee and doyen of the Teacher's Union; a number of National Command cadres; the Algerian ambassador and embassy staff in Damascus; and the Polisario representative in Damascus.

Ba'th-Polisario Talks Begin

JN102109 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
2015 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] A session of talks between a Ba'th Party delegation headed by Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, Ba'th Party assistant secretary general, and a Polisario delegation under Brother Mohamed Abdelaziz, Polisario secretary general, was held at the Ba'th Party National Command this evening. Talks during the meeting dealt with formulas for consolidating the fraternal relations between the Ba'th Party and its revolution in Syria and the Polisario to serve the objectives of both sides and those of the Arab nation.

Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar briefed the guest delegation on the achievements scored in Syria under the canopy of the Ba'th Party, particularly following the Corrective Movement led by struggler President Hafiz al-Asad, Ba'th Party secretary general, on developments in the Arab region, and on the role Syria is assuming in confronting the Zionist aggression and imperialist schemes against the Arab nation's struggle.

Al-Ahmar reaffirmed Syria's principled and firm stand supporting the Palestinian struggle, the Lebanese people, and other Arab factions that are struggling to liberate the Arab individual and land in all the militant arenas from the Arab East to the Arab Maghreb.

Brother Mohamed Abdelaziz explained the developments in the western part of the Arab homeland and Polisario's struggle against the Moroccan regime, which is collaborating with U.S. imperialism and Israel. Brother Mohamed Abdelaziz praised the prominent pan-Arab role that Syria has assumed under President Hafiz al-Asad on all levels and that has made Syria the base of Arab steadfastness for victory and liberation.

Al-Shar' Message to UN on Golan 'Oppression'

JN101947 Damascus Television Service in Arabic
1730 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' has sent a letter to UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar and similar letters to the UN General Assembly president, the UN Security Council president, and the chairman of the Human Rights Committee informing them about the oppression and terrorism the Israeli forces of occupation are carrying out against our kinfolk in the Golan Heights. The following is the text of the letter:

The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic would like to draw your attention to the acts of terrorism and oppression the Zionist forces of occupation are carrying out against the civilian inhabitants on the occupied Syrian Golan Heights, acts which have recently exacerbated, causing the death of innocent Syrian citizens whose only fault was to reject the Israeli occupation, reaffirm their Syrian Arab identity, and proclaim their loyalty to their homeland. These Israeli practices reached a climax on 8 March 1987 on the occasion of the Syrian people's celebrations of the 24th anniversary of the glorious 8 March revolution and during the participation of Golan inhabitants in the celebrations of this anniversary from behind barbed wire. The Israeli forces of occupation attacked the demonstrators and opened fire on them, wounding many and martyring a Syrian woman.

This is not the first time Israel has committed such barbaric acts, terrorism, and oppression against the Syrian Arab citizens, who announce on every occasion and through various means their commitment to their Arab identity, their rejection of Israeli occupation, and their determination to confront it until the Golan is completely liberated from the occupation. These Israeli measures are also part of the long line of operations of racist persecution and economic and political pressure that the forces of occupation have been carrying out against them since the Israeli aggression in June 1967.

Last month, specifically on 12 February 1987 and on the occasion of the fifth anniversary of the upheaval of the occupied Golan citizens against Israel's decision to annex their territory, the Israeli enemy harshly quelled a huge demonstration by Syrian citizens in which they once again affirmed their resistance to occupation and their complete rejection of this occupation.

While communicating these facts to you and to the international community, the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic would like to recall Israel's aggressive and expansionist nature and its blatant disregard for international law, the UN Charter, and relevant UN Security Council and General Assembly resolutions, as well as its violation of provisions of the the 1907 Hague Convention on the protection of civilians under occupation.

The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic would also like to warn against the consequences of pursuing these practices, the perils this may pose to the volatile situation in the region, and the threat to world peace and security.

The foreign minister asked the UN general secretary to distribute this letter to UN member countries as a UN General Assembly official document.

Further Reportage on Reaction to Pollard Case

Shamir Opposes Inquiry

TA101222 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1145 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Prime Minister Shamir says his opposition to a public inquiry into the Pollard affair is not based on any desire for a cover-up. Speaking this morning to school pupils in Migdal Ha'emeq in the north, where he was given honorary citizenship, Shamir also expressed his conviction that there would be no long-term damage to U.S.-Israel relations. From Migdal Ha'emeq, reporter Vivien Royston:

[Begin recording] [Royston] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir maintains that he has absolutely nothing personally to fear from a public inquiry into the Pollard affair. He is convinced, however, that Israel will stand to lose from a public inquiry and this is his primary concern. For this reason alone, the prime minister is opposed to a public inquiry, as he explained to me later.

[Shamir] I don't think we need now a public inquiry. We know the position of the various authentic bodies in the United States. Today, this morning, we read a statement of the White House that the friendly relations between Israel and the United States will not be affected by this painful event, and I hope that it will be so.

[Royston] But there have been indications that there have been no top-level meetings between Israelis and Americans since the Pollard case.

[Shamir] It's not true. All is going as usual.

[Royston] Former Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon intimated yesterday that Israel does not always receive the intelligence material it expects or requires from the United States. Is Prime Minister Shamir also concerned in this respect?

[Shamir] You know, about intelligence it is very difficult to speak in public, but there is cooperation, and very close cooperation, between the United States and Israel in this field of intelligence.

[Royston] With regard to the fate of the Pollards, Prime Minister Shamir stressed that the Israeli Government is in no way connected with the Pollard family and made no requests of them. Perhaps, continued the prime minister, the problem is a human and moral issue, but not one which requires the country of Israel to concern itself with them. [end recording]

Pollards Seek Monetary Aid

TA101830 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1800 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Ann Pollard's family has asked Israel to help it cover its legal expenses. Israeli sources in Washington who reported this to our correspondent added that the Israeli Government's response is currently awaited.

No-Confidence Motions Defeated

TA101834 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1800 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] This evening the Knesset defeated by majority vote four no-confidence motions submitted by the opposition parties over the Pollard affair. Shinuy Knesset Member [MK] Mordekhay Virshubsky voted with the opposition against the cabinet.

Coalition Executive Chairman Rafi Edri appealed to the prime minister this evening demanding that he use his authority to prevent coalition members from voting no-confidence in the cabinet. Yesterday, SHAS [Sefaradim Shomrey Tora, Torah Observing Sephardim] and Agudat Yisra'el members voted no-confidence in the cabinet. MK Edri claimed that if this phenomenon repeates itself, he desires to relieve himself of responsibility for the coalition during Knesset votes.

Peres Supports Inquiry

TA101913 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1907 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres supports an investigation of the Pollard affair within the framework of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee. This was learned by our political correspondent Yig'al Goren. In so doing, Mr Peres has joined Knesset Member Abba Eban, who is the chairman of the committee, who announced that a subcommittee will investigate the affair. This is in conflict with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's position which objects to any inquiry of the affair.

The Inner Cabinet will discuss the Pollard affair tomorrow, and one of the subjects to be debated will be possibilities to rehabilitate ties with the United States.

Shamir on Subcommittee Stance

TA102109 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
2100 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Knesset Member Ehud Olmert has reported that the prime minister believes there is no reason why the subcommittee of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee should not investigate the Pollard affair. The prime minister said his remarks were misconstrued. He did not deny the committee's right to fully clarify the specifics of the affair, and only explained that it cannot serve as a commission of inquiry.

Our correspondent Hayim Zissowitz reports that the subcommittee will hold its first meeting on the Pollard affair this week. Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin was invited to give it details.

Foreign Ministry on U.S. Ties

TA110530 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0500 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] The Inner Cabinet is to convene this morning to discuss the Pollard affair. The prime minister, the vice prime minister, and the defense minister will brief the ministers on the chain of

events and will provide details of the affair. Our political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami reports that the prime minister and the vice prime minister agreed that a subcommittee of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee will investigate the matter.

Our political correspondent also reports that the Foreign Ministry Directorate has drawn up a position paper according to which the government must take immediate steps to ward off the expected pressure from the United States. The document states that if steps are not taken to investigate the Pollard affair and to remove Rafi Eytan and Colonel Sela' from their posts, Israel can expect difficulties in its relations with the United States in many spheres, including financial aid, strategic cooperation, and relations with South Africa.

U.S. Boycotts Sela'

TA110537 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] The U.S. Defense Department has sent Israel an official protest note over the naming of Lieutenant Colonel Avi'em Sela' as head of the Tel Nof air base. The message is said to use strong language to express the department's displeasure over his promotion, and is also said to announce a total boycott of Sela' and the Tel Nof base on the part of American military personnel. Connie Lon reports from Washington:

[Begin recording] [Lon] Behind the scenes, many American officials and legislators continue to smart over the Pollard affair. They hope to see a reassignment of Colonel Sela' and would welcome a fuller hearing of the matter by the Knesset. But for the record, American officials did not discuss this subject during a regular on-the-record briefing. Ambassador Rosenne came to the State Department Monday to meet with Deputy Secretary of State Whitehead. But the ambassador told us later the meeting was scheduled a while ago and the only subject was the situation in Eastern Europe. In an interview with us, we asked Ambassador Rosenne whether American intelligence to Israel has dried up as a result of the Pollard affair.

[Rosenne] The cooperation between the two countries is going on normally and this issue was never raised any time.

[Lon] Has the flow increased or decreased as a result of the Pollard affair?

[Rosenne] It is going ahead normally and the meetings are scheduled to take place on the dates that were agreed upon. And there is absolutely no change in the relationship between Israel and the United States in this respect.

[Lon] Ambassador Rosenne would not comment on the statements mady by Ari'el Sharon. He continued to insist the Pollard affair was a serious mistake, a rogue operation, and did not come about because American was shortchanging Israel's flow of intelligence information. [end recording]

MA'ARIV on U.S. 'Incitement'

TA101440 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 10 Mar 87 p A1

[Commentary by Yehoshu'a Bitzur: "Their Own Pollards"]

[Text] The first question that came to our minds when we heard about the stiff sentence meted out to the Pollards was later posed in public by Knesset Member 'Uzi Landau, a member of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee: How many U.S. Pollards are operating in Israel?

The Shamir-Peres-Rabin triangle treated this unfortunate affair as if a political earthquake had taken place in our midst and destroyed all our foreign relations. The political leadership was paralyzed and did not know what it was doing. The U.S. Administration probably would not have scolded us as if we were its lowly servant had the prime minister, the vice prime minister, and the defense minister reacted firmly from the word go. Our leaders retreated at once because one who receives a $3-billion check every year has no say. Well, Mubarak's Egypt — which has been siding with the Iraqis — also receives a similar sum every year but this has not stopped it from criticizing Washington for its arms deals with Iran. Also, Egypt is not afraid of occasionally "flirting" with Moscow.

King Husayn, who actually lives and rules only through the grace of the United States, occasionally allows himself to "kick up a row" with the Americans when the latter do not comply at once with his requests for sophisticated weapons. The Jordanian king ostensibly turns to both the Eastern bloc and the West European countries to prove he is looking for substitutes for the Americans. Whenever Husayn and Mubarak turn rebellious, Washington goes to great lengths not to anger them and treats them with kid gloves; they certainly do not reprimand them, lest they change directions.

When it came to us, there were no reservations. All those in the Administration who do not like us and who have misgivings about us quickly raised their heads and guided the anti-Israeli incitement campaign. The one who went farthest was U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger who on the same occasion tried to settle a long- standing score with us over differences regarding the *Lavi* project, the arms deals to Iran, and his opposition to the supply of certain types of arms to the IDF. One congressman even said the Pollard affair disqualifies Israel from becoming the 51st state. There is only one answer to this: We have not sacrificed 14,000 of our best boys in five wars in one generation just so to be a second Brooklyn in the Middle East.

In a moment of rage, when he was prime minister, Menahem Begin once dared to tell Washington: One day somebody should check what is worth more: U.S. financial aid to Israel or the strategic and intelligence services Israel provides to the United States and the fact that it is the only stable, democratic basis in this part of the world on which the Americans can rely at any time.

There is no doubt that Pollard's employment by Israeli liaison men was a serious stupidity. And, moreover the job was entrusted to amateurs who caused the entire mess. However, our political leadership should have immediately produced its own counter-

bill: From the day the State of Israel was established U.S. intelligence has been indefatigably operating in our midst. Consider all the efforts invested until they found out that what is located in Dimona is not a new textile plant but, rather, a secret nuclear facility! A U.S. military attache was caught taking photographs in a forbidden area near the fence of a large military airbase in the south. U.S. Embassy personnel constantly tour settlements in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip taking snapshots of any new development to have a full picture of our activities in the territories.

We have numerous examples. It is known that the Americans also have very sophisticated means to win over the hearts of Israeli public figures. There is no NATO country in which the CIA does not maintain an espionage and intelligence network. U.S. intelligence satellites photograph the entire world, both friend and foe.

Washington did not hesitate for even one second when it came to removing its staunchest ally, former Philippines President Marcos, and installing Mrs Aquino when it thought conditions called for switching horses. It behaved in the same way with friendly countries in Latin America, where it constantly meddled with government affairs.

Therefore, the hue and cry over Isaeli espionage in the United States sounds quite exaggerated and is meant to lower Israel's standing with the U.S. public and Congress. We did not damage any U.S. security interest. The information Pollard gave us pertained only to the military alignment of the Arab countries hostile to us and to the PLO bases in Tunis. As far as we are concerned, this information concerns our vital needs, whereas for the CIA this is "intelligence trivia." Had the United States been fair and honest with us it would have put this information at our disposal, thus obviating the need for Pollard's "mediation."

We have no need to establish a state commission of inquiry that would turn the country upside down and perpetuate the issue; what is needed is an internal probe. However, it is important that the political leadership on both sides of the political spectrum know that the public realizes the extent of the "blunder" committed on this issue and the responsibility of the political level for it. The public feels ill at ease about the way the Pollards were left in the lurch. That is not how a proud, courageous, and self-confident people behaves.

Tension Expected With U.S. Over S. Africa Ties

TA101117 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 10 Mar 87 p 1

[Report by political correspondent 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Text] Jerusalem foresees a further heightening of tension with the United States in view of reports arriving from Washington that Israel tops the list of countries maintaining various types of relations with South Africa.

Senior sources in Jerusalem told *Ha'aretz* that Israel features prominently in the first draft of a report on the issue compiled by the State Department. The final report the President is scheduled to submit to Congress at the end of the month is expected to deal even more extensively with Israel, as well as with European countries.

It is feared in Jerusalem that the harsh, anti-Israeli climate in the wake of the Pollard affair and the promotion of Sela' might have an adverse effect on the final report, which will be submitted to Congress on 1 April. According to a law passed by Congress, the United States must halt military aid to any country appearing on the list which will not halt its military relations with South Africa within 6 months. Israel's friends in Congress recently warned officials in the Israeli Embassy in Washington about the serious consequences of Israeli-South African relations.

The senior political level has decided not to pass any resolutions about the proposed sanctions against South Africa and to wait for the elections scheduled in that country in May. White opposition circles and black organizations have asked Western countries to withhold the sanctions, saying that sanctions would play into the hands of the ruling party and the extreme right party.

Shamir: No Cut in Ties

TA101852 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Prime Minister Shamir told our reporter Vivien Royston that Israel will not cut its diplomatic ties with South Africa. Shamir stressed that although Israel is, in his words, very strongly opposed to apartheid, there is the Jewish community in South Africa to take into consideration. The prime minister also pointed out that many countries still maintain relations with Pretoria.

Avraham Tamir in France Reportedly on PRC Ties

TA102110 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Foreign Ministry Director General Avraham Tamir was in Paris today. No details about his talks were available. Paris sources have reported that the contacts between Israel and the PRC are continuing. In the past, Mr Tamir has held several meetings with Chinese representatives in Paris.

Druze Village Protest Death of Buq'ata Woman

TA100923 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0852 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] There is a general strike in the Druze villages in the northern Golan Heights to protest the death of a woman from the village of Buq'ata who was shot by policemen at the beginning of the week. Some 2,000 villagers took part in a funeral procession in the village a short time ago. Dozens of policemen and border police personnel arrived on the scene to oversee the funeral. This was reported by our correspondent in the north Menahem Horowitz.

Continuing Reportage on OAU Minisummit in Cairo

Djibouti President Arrives

NC091127 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1055 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Excerpt] Cairo, 9 Mar (MENA) — Djibouti President Hassan Gouled arrived in Cairo at 1130 today and was received at the airport by President Husni Mubarak. [passage omitted]

Sierra Leone's Momoh Arrives

NC101508 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1345 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Excerpt] Cairo, 10 Mar (MENA) — Sierra Leonean President Joseph Momoh arrived in Cairo this afternoon. He was received at the airport by President Husni Mubarak.

The Sierra Leonean president was accorded an official reception, with the military brass band playing the anthems of both countries. [passage omitted]

Zairian President Arrives

NC101458 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1410 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Excerpt] Cairo, 10 Mar (MENA) — Zairian President Mobuto Sese Seko and his wife arrived in Cairo at 1440 today. President and Mrs Mubarak received the guests at the airport. [passage omitted]

Zambian President Arrives

NC101505 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1413 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Excerpt] Cairo, 10 Mar (MENA) — Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda arrived in Cairo this afternoon on a visit due to last several days. He will take part in the African minisummit that will open in Cairo tomorrow, Wednesday.

President Husni Mubarak received President Kaunda at the airport. [passage omitted]

Malian Foreign Minister Arrives

NC101555 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1530 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Cairo, 10 Mar (MENA) — Modibo Keita, Malian minister of foreign affairs, arrived in Cairo this afternoon. He was received by Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister.

The guest was accorded an official reception at the airport. Keita will represent his country at the African minisummit scheduled to begin in Cairo tomorrow, Wednesday.

Mubarak Hosts Dinner

NC110515 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2030 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Cairo, 10 Mar (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak hosted a dinner banquet tonight in honor of the various heads of the African delegations who will participate in the African minisummit scheduled to open tomorrow morning. The banquet was held at the presidential headquarters in Heliopolis. It was also attended by Consultative Council Speaker Dr 'Ali Lutfi and Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi, as well as various deputy prime ministers, ministers, ambassadors of the eight countries participating in the minisummit, and senior government officials.

President Mubarak delivered a speech on the occasion, in which he welcomed the guests. Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda responded with an address on behalf of the African leaders and heads of the visiting delegations.

The text of President Mubarak's speech is as follows:

Dear brothers, heads of fraternal African countries, dear guests of Egypt: It is an honor and a pleasure to welcome you here to your second home. Close brothers, wise statesmen, and great leaders of the African struggle movement, you stand as marvelous examples of sacrifice and giving. You have lit the torch for generations of Africans struggling for justice and peace.

It was a kind gesture for you to hold this meeting here in Cairo in response to a call by OAU Chairman Denis Sassou-Nguesso. It is a gesture our people appreciate and consider an honor. With this decision you have added to the already immense love the Egyptian people have for you in their hearts. This gathering includes some remarkable African leaders, who have now come together in the capital that hosted the second African summit conference in 1964. At this point in our struggle, this meeting is significant in terms of the joint African efforts being made.

I speak for all Egyptians when I express my utmost appreciation for your presence here. President Kenneth Kaunda, a dear brother and friend, is a distinguished son of Africa and an outstanding contemporary figures. President Mobutu Sese Seko, a dear friend and brother, is a pillar in our joint efforts to achieve liberation and progress. My brother and friend Hassan Gouled is a man who enriches African solidarity with his wisdom and vision. President Denis Sassou-Nguesso is a dear friend and a flame of constructive energy. President Joseph Momoh, a brother and friend, is a man who works tirelessly for African solidarity. President Yoweri Museveni is a dear brother who embodies the continent's youthful spirit. Dear brother Ide Oumarou, the OAU secretary general, as well as all the other brothers taking part in this gathering, do so out of a sense of commitment to mutual African interests.

Dear brothers and friends, this Cairo meeting is taking place under circumstances that are crucial to the future of our leaders and the destiny of our people. It is a new test of the ability of joint African action to plan for this future and define this destiny. It comes at a time when we are passing through a decisive juncture in the history of our struggle for independence and liberation. It comes as we are formulating an appropriate strategy to achieve Namibia's independence, implement UN Security Council Resolution No. 435, and put an end to the racist minority rule in South Africa. With its policies and practices in violation of the simplest humanitarian principles, this rule continues to defy the international community. As a first step, this strategy requires that we give support to our brothers who are struggling against

tyranny and racism in South Africa. It also requires that we strengthen the ability of the Frontline countries to play their role in backing our brothers who are being subjected to the tyranny and oppression of Pretoria's rulers.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend a warm greeting to the heroes of struggle in the south and to our brothers in Angola, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Tanzania, and Botswana. They are fighting a battle under the severest and cruelest of conditions against a regime based on brute force that violates all international laws and charters.

In the economic domain, all the countries of the continent are faced with stiff challenges. They must implement a program for economic revival from 1986 to 1990; they must become self-sufficient in food production, otherwise they will not be able to defend their political freedom and freedom of action. Most African countries are burdened with foreign debts and are finding it difficult to repay these debts and to simultaneously achieve economic growth and withstand increased economic pressures. Perhaps these challenges will serve to underline the necessity of closing our ranks, settling our differences, and resolving inter-African problems in a spirit of unity and solidarity among nations united by destiny and brought closer together by perils and hardship.

It is an incontrovertible fact that the achievement of a better life for future generations and the consolidation of African freedom and independence are dependent on our performance in these crucial years and on the firmness of our determination to meet our obligations in this continent. The nations and leaders of this continent are dedicated to their principles Africa and its people are going to keep their appointment with victory in the battles for freedom, peace, and progress.

You have supported us in our legitimate struggle to liberate our land, exercise our will freely, and raise high the banners of peace in the Middle East, a region of strategic importance to Africa. You continue in your ardent support for a just and lasting peace and for Palestinian rights to self-determination and the liberation of their land.

Dear brothers, dear friends, the Egyptian people are glad to have you here in this land that has been so important in African history, this land of martyrs and saints. We are sure that success will always attend you. Thank you.

Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda made the following speech on behalf of the African leaders and delegates:

Mr President: I am sure I speak for all my colleagues when I say we are grateful for the warm reception you have given us. We will not say we feel at home, because we actually are at home. We appreciate your kind agreement to the OAU chairman's proposal that the minisummit be held here. Your hospitality has come as no surprise to us. This hospitality comes naturally to Egypt. Mr President, we wish to say that the Egyptian people are a great people.

In your speech tonight, you touched on many important issues, particularly when you welcomed us to your magnificent capital. I will not go into every one of these issues now because our stomachs are empty and we are getting hungry. Thank you, Mr President, for your warm [word indistinct]. We will actually be discussing these issues in our meeting tomorrow.

Allow me, Mr President, to note that it is appropriate that these crucial issues should be discussed in Cairo. Egypt has been a center of civilization throughout history. Its civilization has affected the course of history, and it is therefore no surprise that Egypt should have an influence on events beyond its borders, in Africa and the Middle East.

Indeed, certain forces have tried to subjugate Egypt, but these attempts have never succeeded. Egypt continued to push ahead. It serves as a link between Africa and the Middle East. There is nothing strange in the fact that you, Mr President, remind us of our responsibilities in the matters of South Africa nad the Middle East.

The South African Government's invasion of Angola and Mozambique is a direct opportunity (?to solve) problems. We must address a [word indistinct] to the racist regime to reconsider its policies. The same thing applies to Israel. You, Mr President, are a generous and peace-loving person and an exemplary leader. You have offered Israel a great opportunity for peace.

The Africans call for a peaceful Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab territories. This is an African demand. We say the return of the Palestinians to their land is important for peace. This was the request made by the Jews in World War II, and it is not unreasonable.

As for the economy, Mr President, developing countries must achieve economic unity if they are to cope with their problems.

We hope God will bless the African nations and President Mubarak's efforts. I thank President Mubarak and, through him, the Egyptian people.

Ugandan President Arrives

NC110628 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0610 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Cairo, 11 Mar (MENA) — Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni arrived in Cairo this morning to take part in the African minisummit, due to be held in Cairo later today.

President Husni Mubarak was on hand to receive the Ugandan president upon his arrival at Cairo International Airport.

Minisummit Opens

NC111019 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0824 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Excerpts] Cairo, 11 Mar (MENA) — The African minisummit opened at the conference hall of the new presidential palace in Heliopolis at 1000 this morning. The summit is composed of member-states of the Bureau of the 22d OAU session led by Denis Sassou-Nguesso, the Congolese president and current OAU president. President Husni Mubarak, as well as the presidents of the Congo, Djibouti, Zaire, Uganda, Sierra Leone,

and Zambia and delegates from Algeria and Mali, are attending this summit. [passage omitted]

Congolese President Denis Sassou-Nguesso opened the minisummit in his capacity as current OAU president. In his address, the Congolese leader said that several notable events had recently taken place in Africa and the world. One such event was the death of a great man and a noble son of the Africa struggling against colonialism, apartheid, and all forms of oppression; namely, President Samora Machel of Mozambique. He called on the African leaders to observe a minute of silence in mourning for the late president of Mozambique.

Next to speak was Sierra Leonean President Joseph Momoh, who lauded Egypt's role and importance in Africa. He expressed his appreciation and gratitude for the current efforts undertaken by the OAU president regarding African issues, particularly those related to South Africa and the Palestinian problem. He added: We cannot give up the causes of the African people who are seeking independence, stability, and ways to resolve their economic problems. He stressed the need to work for stability in Chad, noting that the presence of foreign troops there not only threatens Chad but all other African states as well. As for the Sahara, he added, we must continue to support the efforts to reach a peaceful solution between the two warring parties there with OAU assistance. In his speech the Sierra Leonean president pointed to the need to mobilize world public opinion for the sake of achieving African independence. He also stressed the importance of concerted action on the part of countries in southern Africa to achieve this objective. Commenting on the Palestinian issue, the Sierra Leonean president stated: We support the right of the Palestinian people to establish an independent government on their own territory. We support all UN resolutions in this regard. [passage omitted]

Congolese President Sassou-Nguesso referred to President Mubarak's speech by saying: We are proud to be here in Egypt. On behalf of the OAU Bureau members, I would once again like to express my thanks to the Government of Egypt for the hospitality accorded us here in Cairo. He expressed his support for all the proposals noted in Mubarak's address. The Congolese president also expressed confidence that the summit would prove successful. As moderator of the session, the Congolese president then asked that the various observers and media representatives in atten-dence leave the conference hall so a closed session could begin. The public session lasted for 30 minutes.

Mubarak Speaks at Opening

NC111017 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0811 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Speech by Egyptian President Husni Mubarak at the opening of the minisummit of the OAU leaders being held at the new Presidency Palace in Heliopolis — live]

[Text] In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful. Dear friend and brother, chairman of the OAU; dear brothers, leaders of the fraternal African states; Mr Secretary General of the OAU: It pleases me to welcome you again to your country and among your kinfolk. The Egyptian people are proud that they belong to the same community as you, and they are also proud of its civilization, heritage, and noble ideals.

With his customary sincerity and objectivity, our dear friend President Joseph Momoh has spoken about how significant it is that the Bureau of the 22d OAU summit is meeting in this truly African capital and under these circumstances. We are here to discuss the struggle to achieve our common aims: the consolidation of our foundations for political, cultural, and economic independence; the affirmation of our freedoms of will and decision; and the spreading of peace and progress to all parts of our glorious continent.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my great thanks and gratitude to President Sassou-Nguesso for taking the initiative in calling for this meeting to be held in Cairo. I also thank all of you, O brothers, for accepting this kind invitation, thus expressing your sincere feelings toward Egypt and its people, as well as its role. All the struggling Egyptian people return these same feelings to you.

Allow me to express my personal happiness at meeting with you to continue our discussion on the issues, problems, and hopes common to us. This discussion will enrich our experience and strengthen our feelings of unity on our common stand and destiny.

At the outset of this meeting, I feel dutybound to emphasize the great work undertaken by the dear brother, the OAU chairman, and the diligent effort he is making in all areas, particularly in the various international lobbies on behalf and in defense of us and our common causes and interests. Thus, he is a true representative of Africa and expresses most honestly the spirit of solidarity and brotherhood among all our struggling peoples. With this same spirit, we support him in his execution of duties and recognize the great responsibility he shoulders. We will do our best to ease his burdens, for we are all partners in that responsibility and destiny, and we will all work toward our goals, inspired by the hopes of our people and their legitimate interests.

Dear friends and brothers, a tremendous task lies ahead of us at this fraternal gathering. We must accomplish it with a cooperative spirit on the basis of our unshakable faith in the unity and solidarity of the African peoples in their confrontation of dangers and challenges. Our efforts in this regard must be based on our mutual confidence, which we have built up through our long experience and during the numerous battles we waged heart to heart and hand in hand.

While carrying out our responsibilities and as a result of our recent deliberations at the African conference in Addis Ababa, we have deduced that there are certain political and economic issues that must receive similar attention throughout our entire glorious continent. Hence, it is natural that we give these issues the attention they deserve at this meeting. We all agree on the list of these issues in terms of their priority. Foremost among these issues are the struggle against racism and terrorism in South Africa, the foreign intervention in Chad, the issue of the Western Sahara, and the ongoing disputes on the Horn of Africa.

Economically, we must focus our attention on the enormous dimensions of the African debt and the need to achieve self-sufficiency in food production. I would like to add to this the need to draw up a system to incite the African states to give absolute priority among themselves in trade exchange and economic cooperation. Furthermore, every African state should not seek to obtain a commodity from foreign markets unless this commodity is unavailable on the African market. If this is ignored, African solidarity will be deprived of one of its most important factors and components.

I propose here that we draw up a realistic and practical program to deal with these issues in the future. We should work within a framework that we can realistically achieve in a specific length of time that is compatible with our people's aspirations and legitimate demands. Please allow me to point to the message we have received from the PLO chairman on the aggressive acts perpetrated against the inhabitants of the camps in Lebanon. This is an issue we are handling as part of our endeavors to achieve a comprehensive settlement of the Middle East problem based on respecting the Palestinian people's right to self-determination. This right, thanks to your efforts, has been supported and established on the international level.

Long live Africa, free and independent, and long live the unity of the African struggle for the sake of freedom, dignity, and progress! May the African hands that contributed toward strengthening our large continent by hard work and sincere efforts be protected. We implore God to grant us success and protect our work. May peace and God's blessings and mercy be with you. [applause]

LIBYA

Meeting Held in Khartoum on Chadian 'Issue'

LD101341 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1230 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] [No placename as received], 10 Mar (JANA) — JANA learned from a reliable source at the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison that a meeting was held in Khartoum dealing with the Chadian issue within the framework of the efforts being made by the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and the Republic of Sudan to settle the Chadian issue through reconciliation among all the conflicting Chadian factions.

What is worth being lauded is that the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, out of its firm principle of reaching a peaceful solution to the Chadian issue, has always endeavored to have all Chadian factions hold a dialogue regardless of their situation in Ndjamena or elsewhere.

Mitterrand's Remarks on Chad Criticized

LD102301 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Today, French President Francois Mitterrand confirmed the French-American colonialist scheme in Chad, which is aimed at widening the scope of the civil war in Chad and stopping any attempt to bring the Chadian factions together in a dialogue to reach a formula for a peaceful solution in that African country.

In this regard, Mitterrand stated today in a luncheon banquet for the diplomatic press in Paris that the solution for the Chadian conflict is primarily a military one that will be achieved on the battlefield. He pointed out that France is still reinforcing its military presence in Ndjamena to (?consolidate) the military course against the Chadian people. In this regard, he said the French military aid is increasing every month.

The People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison issued a statement today on Mitterrand's statements on the Chadian problem. Here is the text of the statement:

At a time when efforts are being made to find a peaceful solution, within an African framework, for the existing conflict among the various factions in Chad, French President Mitterrand made a statement today that stresses his country's intention to continue its military interference in Chad and that the solution in Chad should be a military one. The People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison, as it condemns this colonialist stance, stresses the following:

First, the simultaneity of the French president's statements with the statements of the U.S. Administration against the Libyan Arab and Chadian peoples confirms the truth of what the Great Jamahiriyah declared since the beginning on the presence of a premeditated imperialist scheme to resubjugate the African peoples and control them anew.

Second, this statement is an intentional mockery of the African will and an intentional disregard of the African resolutions about the Chadian problem.

Third, this statement shows France's intention to continue to fan the fire of the fighting among the Chadians, and to prolong the suffering in which the Chadian people live.

Fourth, it is a real tragedy that the issues of national conciliation, security, and peace in Chad have become a mere card in the game of political power struggle in France and in the game of influence competiton in Africa among the imperialist Western powers.

The Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, as it stresses anew that the Chadian problem cannot be solved peacefully except by the departure of the French, American, and Zionist forces from Chad, believes it is now time for the African peoples and states to shoulder their responsibility and to stand firmly in the face of the imperialist scheme, which is aimed at Africa as a whole.

USSR's Songayla Stops Over En Route Home

LD102026 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1945 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Tripoli, 10 Mar (JANA) — Mr Songayla, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the accompanying delegation stopped over at Tripoli International Airport this evening on their way back to their country.

In a statement to JANA, Mr Songayla stressed the depth of the relations linking the Great Jamahiriyah and the Soviet Union. He pointed out that the Great Jamahiriyah and the Soviet Union are always working for peace and the progress of the peoples.

Concluding his statement, Mr Songayla stressed that the Soviet Union will always work toward spreading peace and stability in the world.

Iran's Aqazadeh Makes Statement, Departs

LD101622 Tehran IRNA in English 1558 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Tripoli, March 10, IRNA — OPEC member countries have left the crisis of 1986 behind and have achieved a new understanding resulting in temporary stability in the oil market and increase of prices to dlrs. 18 pb, said visiting Iranian Oil Minister Gholam Reza Aqazedeh here Tuesday.

Aqazadeh told IRNA at Tripoli airport prior to his departure for Saudi Arabia that OPEC members should undertake strenuous efforts in 1987 to turn the temporary stability of oil prices into a permanent one. He said that his upcoming visits to Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates were in this respect.

The oil minister described his previous talks with Gabonese, Algerian, and Libyan officials as "very positive" saying that it was necessary that OPEC officials meet from time to time to coordinate their stands.

He also said that he had deemed it necessary to hold impromptu talks with other OPEC officials because of a move started by oil consuming countries to drive down oil prices, he cited the falling of North Sea oil to dlrs 16 per barrel from dlrs 18.

During his talks with Gabonese, Libyan and Algerian officials which he said had been held in an "atmosphere of understanding", it was made known that none of these countries were ready to give discounts in their oil prices in the interest of the Western countries.

"We will cut oil production ceiling but won't give in to low prices...our steadfastness stems from a clear, positive policy," Aqazadeh reiterated.

Libyan Foreign Minister Fawzi Shakshuki who was present at the airport to see off his Iranian counterpart, termed Aqazadeh's visit here as a "good opportunity" for the two countries to exchange views on the latest developments in the oil market and on efforts to thwart any attempt to drive down prices.

He said that both Iran and Libya would escalate their joint efforts to stabilize the oil market and both will encourage other OPEC members to observe their organization-assigned quotas and consolidate their unity.

On the stockpiling of oil by oil consuming countries, Shakshuki said that he is well aware that such a move is limited and that solidarity of OPEC members will serve to thwart any other attempt by consuming countries to drive down prices. He noted that such unity among the organization's members would help materialize OPEC's goal of returning oil price to dlrs 28 per barrel.

The Libyan oil minister noted that it was not necessary for OPEC to hold an extraordinary session in order to study the current status of oil prices. But, he noted, the organization would hold an extraordinary session, if necessary, to counter any pressure on the international market.

Cairo Newspaper Reports Tribal Discontent

JN102056 Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 9 Mar 87 p 1

[Text] The Libyan People's Committees have faced adamant stands by tribes living in the eastern area. These tribes have announced their rejection of the committees' practices and their attempts to infiltrate some collaborators to convey what is taking place among them to Libyan authorities — a method followed by these committees with many Libyan tribes.

The tribes in the Tubruq and Al-Bayda areas have suspended all laws made by these committees to achieve the interests of the [Libyan] authorities and their leaders in these areas.

SUDAN

Prime Minister al-Mahdi Receives U.S. Official

JN110721 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1714 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Khartoum, 10 (SUNA) — Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi today received (Gotnan Murray), the ambassador coordinating refugee affairs at the U.S. White House [name and title as received], who is currently visiting the country. A responsible source at the Council of Ministers said that the U.S. official voiced his government's support and backing for Sudan in the field of building and entrenching democracy. He added that the official announced that the United States will extend aid to Sudan within the aid offered to the countries hosting refugees, in addition to a U.S. project for resettling refugees in the United States, as a contribution toward solving the problems caused by the refugees to the hosting countries' economic and social structure.

At the meeting, the prime minister expressed thanks to the U.S. Government for its interest in entrenching democracy in Sudan.

The meeting was attended by the refugee commissioner, the U.S. ambassador in Khartoum, and the coordinator of refugee programs in the U.S. Embassy.

It is noteworthy that (Gotnan) arrived in Khartoum yesterday on a 3-day visit during which he will meet with experts in refugee affairs in the capital and the regions.

Foreign Minister Returns; Comments on YAR Visit

JN101229 Khartoum SUNA in English 0910 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Khartoum, Mar. 10 (SUNA) — Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Zayn al-'Abidin al-Hindi returned here yesterday from Sanaa, North Yemen, where he presided over the Sudanese side in the 4th meetings of the Sudanese-North Yemeni Ministerial Committee held there during March 6-9.

Al-Hindi said he has met with the Yemeni President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and conveyed to him an invitation for visiting Sudan from chairman of the State Council and a similar invitation from Premier al-Sadiq al-Mahdi to his Yemeni counterpart, saying that the Yemeni officials accepted the invitations and that the date would be fixed later on.

Al-Hindi said that he discussed with the Yemeni officials the bilateral relations and the current Arab issues.

The talks also covered Sudan's efforts to put an end to the Gulf war and the Chadian problem as well as the role played by Sudan during the 45th OAU Ministerial Council meetings held recently in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, specially as regards the Afro-Arab cooperation.

Al-Mahdi Appoints New Minister of State

JN101606 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1420 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Excerpt] Khartoum, 10 Mar (SUNA) — Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi issued a decree today appointing 'Ali 'Uthman 'Ali 'Uthman abu 'Affan as minister of state in the Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources. [title as received] [passage omitted]

SPLA Calls on Government Commanders To Surrender

EA101623 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Excerpts] The former government army commander of Pibor, together with Ismail Koni, the Khartoum militia commander of Pibor and a few survivors, are now known to have fled Pibor during the final stages of the SPLA assault on Pibor Town on the night of 4 March 1987. They are still at large around the town of Pibor and the commander of the first axis had called upon them to give themselves up with assurances that no harm would come to them if they did so.

The following is the full text of the appeal:

You are hereby asked to report yourselves to Pibor without further delay and for your own good. We know your whereabouts and we could easily attack and wipe you out at any time if we so wished. We also know that you are in a wretched state. You had tried to go in a certain direction but you later altered your decisions with fear of SPLA ambushes and thereby changed your direction. We know precisely where you are now heading for.

We are under strict orders from the commander in chief of the SPLA not to attack you since that would be an absolutely unnecessary massacre. We are also under similar orders from the commander in chief that should you surrender yourselves, then we are to make certain that no harm comes to you. However, if you prefer instead the suffering of the bush and slow agonizing death from thirst, then that will be your own choice. Nevertheless, there is no reason to subject yourselves to any self-inflicted torture because as you all know very well, the SPLM-SPLA does not harm prisoners of war. [passage omitted]

If you give yourselves up, no harm will befall you whatsoever. All you have to do is to dispatch a letter with soldiers or militias to the Pibor base commander and first axis chief of staff, Colonel Ajak Akuol Tong, who will instantly reply and welcome you to Pibor and good luck.

Anya Nya Supports Government Policy in South

JN111051 Khartoum SUNA in English 0930 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Khartoum Mar. 11 (SUNA) — Secretary-General of Anya Nya (2) Movement Pipal Lail reaffirmed that their movement supports every direction from the government side to restore peace and its preparation for the national constitutional conference in order to put an end to the civil war in the south, the daily paper *Al-Sudani* issued here reported today.

Upon his meeting with the chairman of the South Administration Council Mr Mathoyou Abour, Anya Nya (2) Secretary-General told *Al-Sudani* that there is no contradiction between their movement and the South Administration.

TUNISIA

Jordan's Al-Majali Meets Bourguiba; Departs

JN102000 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] His Excellency President Habib Bourguiba received Deputy Prime Minister 'Abd al-Wahhab al-Majali in his residence at the presidential palace in Carthage today. During the meeting, Al-Majali conveyed His Majesty King Husayn's greetings and wishes for his excellency's good health and further progress and prosperity for the Tunisian people. His excellency also asked the deputy prime minister to convey his sincerest wishes, respect, and greetings to His Majesty King Husayn. His Excellency President Bourguiba also praised the existing cooperation between Jordan and Tunisia in all fields, including economic cooperation.

During the meeting, a general discussion of Jordanian-Tunisian relations and ways to bolster and activate them was held. Viewpoints on the Arab region's issues, the prevailing economic situation, the possibility of increasing bilateral cooperation in mining, and benefiting from the two countries' experiences in this regard were exchanged.

The meeting was attended by Tunisian Prime Minister Rachid Sfar and the ministers of presidential affairs, interior, energy, and mining. Also attending was Talal Sat'an al-Hasan, Jordanian ambassador in Tunis.

'Abd al-Wahhab al-Majali also met with Prime Minister Rachid Sfar in Tunis last night. They reviewed bilateral relations and ways of bolstering and promoting them. After the meeting, the deputy prime minister voiced appreciation for existing bilateral relations on all levels, particularly regarding the economic field.

The deputy prime minister left Tunis for Casablanca this afternoon on an official visit of several days to the Kingdom of Morocco. The deputy prime minister is accompanied by Wasif 'Azar, director general of the Jordanian Phosphate Company.

'Abd al-Wahhab al-Majali's visits to Tunisia and Morocco are to hold talks with officials to coordinate the marketing of Jordanian, Tunisian, and Moroccan phosphate in world markets.

MOROCCO

MAP Reports 'Numerous Clashes' With Polisario

LD111130 Rabat MAP in Arabic 1048 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Rabat, 11 Mar (MAP) — The Moroccan Royal Armed Forces General Staff has issued a communique saying that the

combing operation that began on 25 February is continuing. Numerous clashes with the mercenaries [Polisario forces] took place particularly to the southeast of the defense wall in an area including Mahbes and Farsia. Along with these operations, the Moroccan Royal Armed Forces are continuing to build the defensive wall by Oued Eddahab Province, despite the enemy's attempts to obstruct this operation. These attempts are destroyed by the power of our units.

Work is underway according to the initial plan. The construction work has reached Laayaya Jedra, 150 km southeast of Bir Anzaran along an 80-km stretch.

The communique emphasized that since 25 February the known damage to the enemy has increased to:

— Armored vehicles: 30 armored vehicles of all types.

— Military vehicles: 72 vehicles.

— Number of dead: 204 dead.

Among the ranks of the Moroccan Royal Armed Forces 27 persons were martyred and 61 were injured.

WESTERN SAHARA

SDAR Reports 120 Moroccans Killed in New Attack

LD101956 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Excerpt] The fighters of the Saharan Liberation Army launched a new attack yesterday against the Moroccan position in the region of Chedemia, the meeting point between Farsia and Mahbes.

The SDAR's Ministry of Information and Culture has pointed out in a communique that the attack resulted in the death of 120 Moroccan soldiers and the wounding of another 200, among whom was an officer with the rank of major who was the commander of the 43d Moroccan battalion. The Saharan Liberation Army managed to occupy two positions for 30 minutes in the 120-km-long battle front, destroy a huge quantity of Moroccan military hardware, and capture a large quantity of various caliber weaponry. [passage omitted]

ETHIOPIA

Eritrean Radio Reports on Recent Clashes

EA061752 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Tigrinya 0430 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Text] Southern Zone — Our heroic people's force have ambushed an enemy force that was mobilized from (Kenakina) to Adi Arbate. In the clash, which was carried out at 0900 on 4 March, five enemy soldiers were killed and eight others wounded. The remaining enemy force was forced to retreat after leaving four rifles behind.

In another development, our heroes attacked a patrol post near Debre Bizen, killing five Dergue soldiers and wounding eight others. Our heroic forces captured 1 rifle and 40 antipersonnel mines which have been laid in the area.

SOMALIA

Somali National Movement Urges Opposition Unity

EA111057 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1700 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] The Fifth SNM [Somali National Movement] Congress, which had been in progress for 9 days, ended yesterday. The congress opened on 28 February and was attended by delegates from the movement's bases, its headquarters, and its branches in foreign countries. The fighters who attended the congress held their discussions in a freedom-loving and nationalistic manner. They discussed how to promote the struggle to redeem the country, how to restore the dignity of the Somali people which has been soiled by dictator Siad Barre, and how best to speed up the struggle to save the Somali people. After thoroughly discussing the agenda, the congress adopted positive resolutions and issued bold calls.

The SNM congress adopted the following resolutions:

The congress elected as chairman fighter Ahmad Muhammad Silanya. It also elected members of the Central Committee. The fifth congress also resolved to review [words indistinct] the SNM Constitution.

Other resolutions include the unification of Somali opposition forces in general, and in particular the two groups now leading the struggle, the DFSS [Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia] and SNM. This unification should be speeded up. The congress also issued a call relating to Siad Barre's regime [words indistinct] calling on Somali communities to join hands [words indistinct] to form councils to deal with security issues. The congress also issued [words indistinct] troops still loyal to Barre's regime, calling on them either to (?join) the Somali opposition forces or to desert. [Words indistinct] all liberation fronts in the world such as the ANC, SWAPO, and PLO.

TANZANIA

Nyerere Leaves on Six-Nation Latin American Tour

EA062041 Dar es Salaam External Service in English 1600 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Summary] Chariman of the South-South Commission, Mwalimu Nyerere, is on his way to Venezuela at the start of a six-nation tour of Latin America. Nyerere, who is also CCM chairman, will visit Venezuela, Peru, Uruguay, Argentina, Brazil, and Cuba, where he will hold talks with the leaders of those countries on the setting up in the Latin American region of the commission formed last year by the Nonaligned Movement.

President Mwinya on Official Visit to DPRK

For reportage on the 4-day visit by President Ali Hassan Mwinya to the DPRK, see the North Korea section of the 11 March East Asia & Pacific *Daily Report* and subsequent issues.

BURUNDI

DPRK Official Arrives for 5-Day Visit on 7 March

EA081451 Bujumbura Domestic Service in French 1100 GMT 8 Mar 87

[Excerpt] Mr Kim Yong-sop, DPRK vice minister of foreign affairs, arrived in Bujumbura yesterday afternoon on a 5-day visit to our country. [passage omitted]

CAMEROON

Biya Writes Book on Political Philosophy

AB101110 Yaounde Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] President Paul Biya has written a book on his political philosophy entitled *For Communal Liberalism*. In the book, which contains 7 chapters and 158 pages, the head of state defines communal liberalism (?as a) world for a more interdependent humanity. He says such solidarity is necessary for the construction of a new political society so the economy should be at the service of man, while social justice is applied to the distribution of the fruits of our growth. In the book, the head of state envisages a society founded on the principles of democracy, freedom, solidarity, equality, and justice.

Speaking in an interview with the national daily *Cameroon Tribune*, President Biya said the idea of the book was within the framework of the new deal policy upheld since his election as chairman of the party in September 1983. In the closing chapter of the book headlined "A More Interdependent Humanity," Mr Biya said it was an expression of our readiness to participate in international issues without denouncing our personality, identity, and (?self-respect).

The book, which has been published in French and English, has already been read with much interest by the French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac, French Minister of Culture and Communication Francois Leotard, and former French Prime Minister Laurent Fabius.

CHAD

Foreign Minister in U.S.; Aid Discussed

AB111031 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 0530 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Our country is a constant target of Libyan aggression. Bombings and raids have become our daily lot. No peace-loving country that respects international rules can remain indifferent in tha face of the [word indistinct] and violence of Al-Qadhdhafi against Chad. But, thanks to God, Chad has many friends who never fail in any circumstances to [words indistinct] in the face of this situation and increase their aid to our country.

The United States is one such country. Thus during our foreign minister's current visit to the United States, the U.S. Government has expressed concern about the buildup of the Libyan military presence in Chad and expressed its readiness to provide assistance to the Chadian people, should this become necessary. Of course, Tripoli's aggression against our country was raised by Mr Gouara Lassou when he held discussions in Washington with the U.S. under secretary of state for (?political) affairs and with Chester Crocker, the assistant secretary of state for African affairs. Yesterday afternoon, (?our foreign minister) was received by George Shultz, before he held discussions with the head of the American Agency for Development. [title as heard]

Bardai Claims U.S. Soldiers Support Habre Forces

AB101921 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Communique issued by GUNT on 8 March in Bardai]

[Text] Soldiers of the National Liberation Army clashed with Hissein Habre's forces supported by French and U.S. soldiers at (Ouadi Mannar). Losses on the part of our active forces are five dead on the field of honor and (?two) wounded. On the enemy side: The entire column of the puppet troops was completely destroyed.

Issued in Bardai on 8 March 1987.

Communique, Reports on Fighting in North

17 Libyans Killed 8 March

AB101417 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1330 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Communique No 43 issued in Ndjamena by the Chadian National Armed Forces High Command on 10 March]

[Text] On Sunday, 8 March at 1700 local time, violent fighting occurred between the indomitable Chadian National Armed Forces [FANT] and the Libyan slavemonger troops at Tekro, north of Ounianga Kebir on the road to [name of locality indistinct]. Here is the outcome of that fighting:

On the enemy side: 17 Libyans killed and 3 taken prisoner, 5 Toyota trucks mounted with 14.5 mm canons (?destroyed), [words indistinct] destroyed.

On the ally side: one soldier slightly wounded.

Despite the lessons given to the Libyan aggressors on all fronts, they continue their bombing [words indistinct]. Yesterday, 9 March, the enemy dropped its bombs on Fada in the Ennedi region at 2300 and 0001 hours.

Whatever happens, the FANT insists on the total liberation of their sacred territory. It will track down the Libyan forces, wherever they are, until final victory.

Attack on French Plane Denied

LD101549 Paris International Service in French 1245 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] The new GUNT, that is the organization led by Acheikh Ibn Oumar, is clearly seeking publicity at the moment. It has claimed the sabotage of the bridge linking Cameroon and Chad near Ndjamena. The same new GUNT has claimed that its troops attacked a French military *Transall* transport plane south of the 16th Parallel yesterday. The French Ministry of Defense has totally denied this claim.

JANA Cites Fighting

LD101544 Tripoli JANA in English 1440 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Bardai, Al Marikh 10, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — The foreign minister of the Chadian National Unity Government has released a statement emphasizing that a group belonging to the troops of his government have destroyed Chari Bridge connecting Kousseri town in Cameroon with the capital Ndjamena.

The statement has stressed the point that the above government is resolved to continue the armed struggle against Ndjamena clique until Chad is liberated from U.S. and French colonialism.

He adds that the troops of his government are capable of bringing the fight in position behind the outposts of the enemy.

Meanwhile, Bardai radio has said that the troops of the Chadian National Unity Government have stepped up their operations in the Zouar and Tibesti regions and that the militias of Ndjamena are suffering now from the death-agony, for they will be liquidated in their entirety.

GUNT Attacks Truck in South

LD102041 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1922 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Bardai, 10 Mar (JANA) — Radio Bardai has mentioned that a GUNT patrol attacked a truck carrying soldiers and equipment south of the 16th Parallel.

The radio quoted a statement by GUNT saying that the truck and its cargo of equipment were destroyed and the soldiers in it killed.

Rival Groups Clash Near Fada

LD102204 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] A spokesman of Chad's legitimate GUNT says the traitor Adem Yacoub attacked a group belonging to Demash in a region near Fada and that a fierce battle took place between the two sides. Traitor Adem Yacoun's group tightened its siege around Damash's group, making his position hopeless, and it is certain that he was killed in the clash.

The official spokesman added that Adem Yacoub has betrayed the Chadian people's liberation forces and formed a group of his own called the liberation forces, which has joined the French forces. The battle between the two sides in the region near Fada erupted because of the well-known loyalty of Damash and his group, because of his ties with him [as heard], and because of Damash's hostility toward hireling Habre and Adem Yacoub.

These clashes are evidence of the acute divisions between the two sides, and of the fact that the Ndjamena group is aggravating these divisions to serve its racist tribal policies, which work to reinforce the control of Habre's tribe over the other tribes.

The GUNT spokesman concluded by saying that neither the policies of hirelings and the links with the French and U.S. colonialism, nor the policies of escalating racial tribal conflicts, as practiced by the Ndjamena clique, will be able to hide Habre's reality, agency, or his renewed crimes against the Chadian people and the Chadian national forces.

GABON

Bongo Meets With Iranian Oil Minister 4 March

LD061621 Tehran IRNA in English 1519 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Text] Tehran, March 6, IRNA — Iranian Oil Minister Gholam Reza Aqazadeh conferred with Gabon's President Albert Bernard Omar Bongo in a meeting in Libreville Thursday, where he also submitted to him a message from his Iranian counterpart 'Ali Khamene'i.

In a separate meeting with Gabon's deputy prime minister and minister of mines and petroleum, Aqazadeh and Mouvagha-Tchioba discussed ways for establishing real oil prices.

Aqazadeh left Libreville for Algiers Friday morning on the second leg of his visit to three oil-producing African countries.

Loan Agreement Signed With EEC Commission

AB091450 Paris AFP in French 1120 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] Libreville, 9 Mar (AFP) — The EEC Commission signed two agreements with Gabon today totalling 2.72 billion CFA francs (Fr54.4 million) for the development and exploitation of forest resources and assistance to small- and medium-sized industries (PME).

The first agreement concerns an agricultural and afforestation project in villages in the southeast part of the country that will replace current practices of extensive production. It involves 2 billion CFA francs (Fr40 million) and will supplement another integrated pilot project, begun in 1984, to accelerate afforestation and encourage the diversification of species. Furthermore, a line of credit amounting to 720 million CFA francs (Fr14.4 million), has been opened by the EEC, two-thirds of which is in the form of loans and the rest in subsidies. This credit, managed by the Aid and Guarantee Fund of the Gabonese Ministry of Small- and Middle-Size Businesses, will enable preferential loans to be granted to 30 small- and medium-size businesses in the agricultural sector, thus encouraging the creation of some 200 new jobs.

ZAIRE

Opposition Leader Dies of AIDS in Brussels

AU091741 Paris AFP in English 1705 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] Brussels, March 9 (AFP) — Makanda Mpinga, a former Zairean member of parliament and a founding member of the outlawed Union for Democracy and Social Progress Party, died here Friday of AIDS, Zaire's ambassador said Monday.

Ambassador Mushobekwa Kalimba said Mr. Makanda had been authorized to leave Zaire by President Mobutu Sese Seko to receive medical care in Belgium. He said the opposition politician died of acquired immune deficiency syndrome, or AIDS.

The Union for Democracy and Social Progress issued a statement here earlier blaming the Zairean Government for his death, saying authorities waited to authorize Mr. Makanda to leave the country until "he had no more chance to survive."

The movement, which has its headquarters in Brussels, said it considered Mr. Makanda's death a "murder."

Born in 1930 in the central Kasai region, Mr. Makanda was elected to parliament in 1977 and joined with 12 other deputies in 1980 to form the Union for Democracy and Social Progress.

Marshal Mobutu immediately declared the party illegal, citing the 1967 Constitution which proclaimed Zaire a one-party state.

GHANA

Foreign Delegations Comment, Depart Celebrations

PRC Delegate Comments

AB092141 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] Mr Zhun Xun, leader of the Chinese delegation to Ghana's 30th anniversary of independence, has left Accra for Guinea. While in Ghana, he visited the Obuasi mines and held talks with the secretary for lands and natural resources, Mr George Adamu, on wide range of subjects. Mr Zhun said Chinese experts are at the moment in the country to assist in any way they can. He said he was impressed by the economic activity and the living standard of the people. Mr Zhun noted that Ghana has rich natural resources which can be harnessed to benefit the people.

More Delegations Leave

AB101108 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Four more foreign delegations to the 30th independence anniversary celebration of Ghana have returned home. They are from Iraq, Egypt, Iran, and Britain. The leader of the Iraqi delegation, Mr (Hashim Akrare), a minister of state, in a predeparture interview said the anniversary was an expression of Ghanaians' love for freedom and their determination to develop. He stressed the need to strengthen relations between Ghana and Iraq for their mutual benefit.

The Egyptian delegate, Mr (Mohammad Shad), who is assistant foreign minister, said Egypt is eager to expand cooperation with Ghana. He commended the PNDC for its sincereity and devotion to the task of nation-building. He disclosed that President Mubarak has extended an invitation to Chairman Rawlings to visit Egypt.

The leader of the Iranian delegation, Mr (Mohammad Hasan Afghania), said Iran shares Ghana's belief that only comprehensive and mandatory sanctions can dismantle apartheid in South Africa.

The British delegate, Sir (Harold Smeddley), who was his country's high commissioner to Ghana between 1954 and 1957, said he has always held the firm belief that Ghanaians are a people of great potentials and his conviction was amply confirmed during the anniversary celebration.

Soviet, DPRK Delegates Depart

AB101635 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] The delegations of the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of Korea [as heard] left Accra today for home after taking part in Ghana's 30th anniversary celebration of independence. The leader of the Soviet team, Mr (Agulae Songanga) said the visit offered them the opportunity to learn about the achievements so far made by Ghanaians in their economic and political struggle. He said that the success achieved by Ghanaians is a vivid example of the creative potential of working masses. Mr (Songanga) added that the leadership of the PNDC is consciously overcoming the difficulties facing the country and practically advancing toward building a new society. He remarked that the participation of the numerous foreign delegations in the celebration is convincing proof of the respect that the PNDC has gained in international circles. This, according to him, stems from the principled and constructive stand the government has adopted on burning world issues.

On his part, the leader of the DPRK delegation, Mr Kim Pong-ul, who is the minister of labor administration, hoped that with the clearly defined objectives of the PNDC and the support of the people, Ghana will soon be on the way to economic progress. He said the massive participation of Ghanaians in the celebration has proved to the world that the PNDC enjoys the overwhelming backing of the people. Mr Kim added that the anniversary parade speech and the radio and television broadcast by the PNDC chairman, Flight Lieutenant Rawlings, awakened people in the developing countries as well as other oppressed people still fighting for their independence.

GUINEA BISSAU

Finance Minister Comments on Reforms, IMF

AB070628 Dakar PANA in French 1325 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Text] Bissau, 6 Mar (ANG/PANA) — Guinea-Bissau's finance minister, Mr Victor Freire Monteiro, said at Bissau on 4 March in an interview with the *Guinea-Bissau News Agency* (ANG) that the financial situation of the country was "very difficult" and that the country was still facing great difficulty in various sectors. Mr Monteiro also stressed that the level of the foreign debt of the country is disturbing. He said however that in the case of Guinea-Bissau, "we must not worry so much, considering the fact that its foreign debt is small compared to other African countries or others."

The Guinea-Bissau finance minister also expressed optimism, saying that the implementation of the measures planned by the Guinea-Bissau Government with the help of the major international economic partners will make it possible to minimize the growth of the debt and improve control over the balance of payments by practicing "sound" management based on increased exports and reduced imports.

Touching on agreements with the IMF, Mr Monteiro said his country, a member of several international organizations, has its own national development policy and only accepts those conditions that conform to that policy. He also rejected the idea that Guinea-Bissau is sufferng from IMF demands, and said in this regard: "If aid to the struggle for the well-being of our people and the development of our country is considered as a demand, we accept it, no matter where it comes from." Mr Monteiro also announced that new negotiations have been planned with the fund to take stock of the current agreements and to discuss the modalities of a new agreement, of which the major outlines have not yet been drawn.

Speaking on the problematic question of Guinea-Bissau's eventual membership in a monetary zone, notably its integration into the UMOA ("Franc" or West African Monetary Union), or the creation with the other Portuguese-speaking countries of an "escudo" zone, Mr Monteiro said the creation of a monetary zone will depend on the willingness of the possible partners. Regarding the "franc" zone, Guinea-Bissau's finance minister said he could not give any details on the topic because it had not yet been dealt with by the government. Referring to the "escudo" zone, Mr Monteiro said it could be envisaged, considering that the possibility had been mentioned by President Joao Bernardo Vieira during his visit to Portugal in 1983. He said however that nothing concrete has emerged until now.

On the issue of private investments in Guinea-Bissau, Mr Monteiro said it could constitute a key support to Guinea-Bissau's economic and financial recovery program, on condition that the private investment code — particularly in the case of foreigners — and the development options are respected. With regard to the ongoing economic liberalization in Guinea-Bissau, which provides for reforms in the fiscal, monetary, and exchange fields, Mr Monteiro defined this stage as a "policy that favors the (?secondary) level" and cited the example of agriculture, which has moved from "food farming to export farming." Moreover, this is favorable to Guinea-Bissau's policy of reducing expenditures and reducing the balance of payments deficit.

As far as external debt of Third World countries is concerned, in particular that of Africa, he said the sole solution for creditors and debtors is to initiate an indefectible policy of solidarity to be strengthened through constant dialogue.

South-South or North-South relations, he added, are very important in the present phase of the policy and the problem of the debt should not be a subject of "shame or an obstacle" to the harmonious development of the peoples.

On the other hand, the Guinea-Bissau minister for finance stated that the issue of external debt is an important issue for his country, which is determined to improve the present situation.

Recalling the policy of financial rapprochement between Guinea-Bissau and Portugal, Mr Monteiro described it as extremely important and very favorable to his country.

In this regard, he recalled that Guinea-Bissau signed an economic and financial agreement with Lisbon at the end of last year, providing, notably, for the liquidation of the external debt contracted vis-a-vis Portugal.

As for enterprises, the Guinea-Bissau minister for finance disclosed that Portugal granted under the terms of the last agreement signed between the two countries two lines of credit worth $4 million to develop the rural sector and another one worth $1 million for projects related to the Brewery Company of Guinea-Bissau (CICER).

Mr Monteiro indicated that as far as the liquidation of the debt contracted vis-a-vis Portugal — which is worth $5 million — is concerned, the Portuguese Government has decided to cancel the Guinean debt and to convert the amount in pesos, the local currency, for the financing of possible projects of cooperation to be implemented in Guinea-Bissau by Portugal.

IVORY COAST

Railway Administration With Burkina Faso Ended

AB091620 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 9 Mar 87 p 10

[Unattributed report — "The Patrimony Will be Equitably Divided"]

[Excerpts] There will be no confrontations between Ivory Coast and Burkina Faso in the negotiations underway since last Friday in Abidjan that have to lead to the discontinuation of the joint railway administration.

In their statements yesterday morning at the RAN [Abidjan-Niger Railway Administration], the two countries' transport ministers, Aoussou Koffi and Alain Coefe, expressed their happiness about "the climate of serenity and the spirit of frankness, understanding, and brotherliness" that characterized the deliberations of the joint commission set up to identify and study all the financial, material, and human problems to be resolved before abolishing the RAN, and to implement the principle of separate administration as recommended by our country during a meeting of the board of directors in February 1986 in Bouake. [passage omitted]

Studies have estimated the liabilities and assets of the administration at 72 billion CFA francs and 42.797 billion CFA francs, respectively. Capital assets (stations, buildings, lands, and rolling stock) have been estimated at 78 billion CFA francs. [passage omitted]

Paper on Al-Qadhdhafi's 'Culpable Behavior'

AB092212 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 9 Mar 87 p 31

["Shall We Continue To Allow Al-Qadhdhafi To Act" by Jean-Pierre Aye]

[Text] The Tripoli colonel has not renounced his dream of controlling Ndjamena and annexing Chad, whose Aozou Strip he is already unacceptably occupying. The proof is that Libyan reinforcements have been dispatched to the Chadian-Sudanese border without the agreement of the Khartoum government. And Libya is preparing to launch three offensives in northern Chad and in Sudan: The first offensive is to try to recapture Fada, the second is to control the Tibesti region, and the third is to be carried out in the western part of Darfour Province, on Sudanese territory.

He still persists in his dreams, despite the twofold diplomatic setback Libya suffered at the recent OAU foreign ministers conference; despite the increasing diplomatic isolation since the condemnation of the Libyan occupation by President Houphouet-Boigny; despite the crumbling and the disintegration of the GUNT; despite the fact that several opposition factions

and frontline opponents have now joined Hissein Habre; despite Libya's disturbing internal situation, which led some officers to take refuge in Egypt and others to attack an ammunition depot; despite the recent deployment of French land intervention forces east of Chad.... Everything is happening as if the people in Tripoli and Al-Qadhdhafi's aides cannot read events and interpret them.... It is true that obsession can make someone blind.

For a long time, the Tripoli colonel used the rival factions in Chad, and in particular the GUNT, in recent years to pursue his annexation policy in Chad. This pretext died out by itself, because it was worn out and discarded by certain people who suddenly realized and understood that the Chadian problem could not be solved through Tripoli. The cost of sponsoring such a solution and giving it logistic support was too heavy to bear. Undoubtedly, they thought it would be better to be a Chadian and live under Chadian administration than to be a Chadian and live under Libyan administration, thus sacrificing the sovereignty of their country. Djogo, Kamougue, Kotiga, Mbai Lemdana, Lamana, Senoussi, Khatir, Djibrine, Grinky, Tokinon, and others understood this and returned to Ndjamena, having it at heart and in mind that their country paid dearly for the division caused by its "terrible and rebellious sons." They have resolved that Chad must not continue to pay that great price in addition to the effects of a totally inexplicable war.... They set aside their personal quarrels and the mad desire of a neighboring state to extend its borders.

The pretext that Goukouni Oueddei heads a government in exile no longer holds true, judging from the activity in the field as well as from objective reality. Al-Qadhdhafi's hostage is a tired man today. He has been worn out by the fighting and political denials. His only aspiration is to return to the shores of the Chari River and live peacefully in his native Chad.... In Al-Qadhdhafi's mind, such a return would break the diplomatic balance which, according to international public opinion has already been completely broken. In fact, it is believed in Tripoli that as long as Goukouni Oueddei were in Libya or in any other friendly country, he would not be dangerous. However, if he returned to Ndjamena, he would offer Hissein Habre the opportunity to crown his efforts at national union.

In fact, Tripoli believes Goukouni Ouddei's presence in the Chadian capital would be seen by the international public as a clear proof that there was no longer any Chadian opposition, that the Libyan presence in the north — which has long been a response to the Chadian opposition's urgent request — was completely illegal, and that Chad had been victim of the aggression by a foreign army.

That is the last hope of the Tripoli colonel, who has analysed all the aspects of the problem except one. The international public is well aware of Goukouni Oueddei's situation and is not awaiting his return to Ndjamena to be convinced that Chad has been long been attacked by a foreign army, that of Libya. There is no longer any doubt of this.

This is why one can only be surprised by the shy reactions, notably of the Western countries of whom one has a right to expect clearer stands instead of bursts of sympathy for Chad, which are considered by the Tripoli government as tacit complicity. Of course, all the Western countries are not asked to emulate the outstanding example given by France, which has essential reasons to be in Chad since it is implementing cooperation agreements. But it is easy to believe that stronger statements, clearer stands, and condemnations of an undeniable aggression will weaken the Libyan intransigency to annex Chad, which, undoubtedly, is another of the challenges Al-Qadhdhafi takes pleasure in hurling at the world.

Africa has made its voice heard and expressed its indignation through first-rank heads of state such as Houphouet-Boigny, Paul Biya, Husni Mubarak, Abdou Diouf, and so on. The OAU has shown itself, through the recent session of foreign affairs ministers, less "bound" by Tripoli's spells. More positive reactions and engagement in the search for peace in Chad are expected of Europe and the United States.

Certainly such a development in the conflict would benefit the legitimate Ndjamena government. "Responsible Africa" wishes for that development because it can be decisive in settling this conflict, which is very detrimental to Chad and Chadians.

It is time, high time, for the countries that are jealous of their liberty and sovereignty to make their stands clearly known. This must be done before Al-Qadhdhafi's culpable behavior appears as victorious over the free world's resignation.

NIGERIA

Government Moves To Curb Religious Disturbances

AB102136 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] The Federal Military Government has embarked on measures to curtail the disturbance which has occured in some parts of Kaduna state in the past few days. As a result of the disturbances which started in (Ikonjin), 9 people are reported dead and 11 seriously injured and admitted to the (Ikonjin) General Hospital. Property was also destroyed. According to an official account, the trouble began last Friday at a clash between some Muslim and Christain students of the College of Education in (Ikonjin) during an open air revival service. But on the following day, Saturday, the disturbances spread to (Ikonjin) Township and by midnight the following day the situation was brought under control.

Today, however, at about 0700 o'clock in the morning, the students of Kaduna Polytechnic embarked on a demonstration which eventually resulted in violent disturbances and the destruction of property before the police intervened. The police said that the situation had already been brought under control. Greatly concerned at this state of affairs, the Federal Military Government has directed the Kaduna state government and the police to institute necessary inquiry with the view to bringing to book the perpetrators.

Radio Comments on President's Hospitalization
AB091603 Lagos International Service in English
0830 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Atilade Atoyebi commentary]

[Text] Before President Ibrahim Babangida left the country a month ago for treatment in France, those who had business to conduct at the corridors of power noticed that the president was somehow indisposed. It was also noted that on a number of occasions, the president was unable to conclude official engagements. Even some experienced press photographers were able to record some of the president's moments of strain. But for those who are not privileged to observe the president at close quarters, his departure for medical attention in France was so sudden that it took them by surprise. But the regular and reassuring manner in which the president's chief press secretary put out bulletins on his health condition (?eliminated the) national anxieties over his departure. The timely announcements also put rumor peddlars out of business.

What then became a matter of concern to people at home and abroad was how the ship of state would be piloted when the president was hospitalized. There were those who felt that the president's absence would create a vacuum in the day-to-day running of the affairs of this country. There was some degree of curiosity as to how decisions would be taken on crucial and urgent national issues. Some observers thought that modern communications facilities would greatly assist the president's men in keeping in close touch with him.

However, the point was equally raised that very little should be brought to the attention of the president who needed time to recover from major surgery. As it turned out, the government showed clear evidence of continuity. For example, most people were astonished about the promptness with which the government reversed the Central Bank's decision at the 19th bidding session of the Second-Tier Foreign Exchange Market. The feeling was that such a far-reaching decision needed the special consideration of the president, and therefore could not be taken without him around. There was also the appointment of the acting chief justice of the federation. The announcement was made while the president was planning his journey back home. Other events took place with relative ease.

Another area of interest to both local and foreign observers was the evidence of political stability which the president's absence for a month had underlined. Those who are usually restless about Nigeria's political atmosphere should have a reason to feel at ease now that the country is quite calm. A situation like this ought to reinforce the loyalty of the people to their government. It should also enable foreigners dealing with Nigeria on diplomatic and economic matters to feel a lot more confident in their approach to the nation. It has also been observed that the period during which the president was hospitalized brought into focus the extent of the people's affection and solidarity for him.

As soon as he left the country, there were deeply moved Nigerians who wanted to travel by the next available flight to France and personally wish him well. A lot more sent messages of speedy recovery; religious devoters prayed in their places of worship for his good health, and on his return thousands of people went to the airport and lined the roads to his residence to give him a tumultuous welcome home. All these are signs of acceptability of their president by Nigerians. It is a barometer for measuring the popularity of a leader. Obviously, a people whose perception of their leader is both negative and uninspiring would have been indifferent to his personal well-being. In such a circumstances, only sycophants would have formed the welcoming party. The president himself has acknowledged the support of his people for him and his administration. He said that the period of his hospitalization was time for proper reflections on the task facing him and his government and he has promised to rededicate himself to the task of nation building.

That promise is undoubtedly in consonance with the aspirations of the people who have been dazed by economic recession and who must be motivated by their leader to rise above the recession to new economic creats. The president's pledge to build a peaceful nation also tallies with the people's desire for peaceful coexistence and the eradication of brigandage from our streets. It is with this spirit of solidarity in tackling the great task ahead that Nigerians from all walks of life welcome President Babangida back home.

Commentary Urges Commonwealth Action Against RSA
AB101359 Lagos International Service in English
0830 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Mike Onochie commentary]

[Text] The history of the Commonwealth can be traced to 1926 when the imperial conference in Britain drafted a statute formally initiating the Commonwealth of Nations. At present, the organization has 49 members, most of which are former colonies of Britain. Its objectives include the fostering of bonds of friendship in political, economic, and cultural affairs between member-states. The organization is also expected to respect the dignity of man no matter the color, class, or creed, and to ensure justice, secure and promote peace among nations.

The obvious question therefore is: What impact has the Commonwealth registered with regard to the stated objectives? The Commonwealth Secretariat may not be at difficulty to talk about some achievements regarding some international issues. For example, it is under the Gleneagles Declaration that the Commonwealth applied moral pressure forbidding all its members from having sporting links with apartheid South Africa. And, of course, the argument that the Commonwealth Lusaka Declaration of 1979 increased moral pressure on Britain to take the necessary steps leading to Zimbabwe's independence cannot be faulted.

However, it is doubtful if the organization would score a pass mark on other issues such as the independence of Namibia, the obnoxious system of apartheid in South Africa, economic imbalance between its rich and poor members. South Africa has continued to defy world opinion by creating obstacles to Namibia's independence and Commonwealth membership. Nineteen years have passed since the United Nations terminated the mandate over Namibia given by the the League of Nations

to racist South Africa. The International Court of Justice has ruled that South Africa is illegally occupying Namibia. And 7 years ago, the Security Council unanimously agreed on a plan for Namibia's independence. But South Africa has continued to defy world opinion.

Added to this are measures to destabilize the Frontline States. Official reports put the damage done to neighboring states at over $10 billion. The Commonwealth can check these excesses by establishing a multinational military contingent in southern Africa.

Also, it is on record that Britain, which regards herself of the Commonwealth, has been fraternizing with apartheid South Africa despite declarations by the Commonwealth forbidding links with the racists. The recent orchestrated withdrawal of Barclays Bank of Britain from South Africa notwithstanding, Britain investment in the racist territory is estimated at $4 billion. It is therefore little wonder why the present administration in Britain, headed by Margaret Thatcher, refuses to accept that comprehensive and mandatory sanctions could bring a timely end to apartheid. We are all wintnesses to the threats posed to the Commonwealth by these two issues. Only last year, the Commonwealth Games in Edinburgh, Scotland, were marred following boycotts by many African and other states in protest against Britain's fraternization with apartheid South Africa.

Another vital area that the Commonwealth will need to give greater attention is the issue of trade and other economic relations between its rich and poor members. The economic difficulties in many Commonwealth countries, especially those in Africa, are well known. Most of them are in serious debts, and their abilities to settle these debts have been eroded by the stagnation in aid and depressed prices for exports. Major industrial countries have continued to resist meaningful discussions with developing countries to evolve a more equitable system of international economic relationship. This situation should be a source of serious concern to the Commonwealth. With Britain and Canada, the Commonwealth has a great opportunity to influence more liberal attitudes toward debts and other economic problems of member-states.

Above all, there is need for members of the Commonwealth, particularly Britain, to reappraise their conduct so that, in the final analysis, the organization can justify its existence.

ANGOLA

KUP: MPLA Plants Land Mines in Bid to Blame UNITA

MB110629 (Clandestine) KUP in English to Southern and Central Africa 0600 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Free Land of Angola, 11 Mar (KUP) — The MPLA regime is planting landmines around water wells in the Luanda region in a bid to alienate the local population from UNITA. According to reports from the area, the regime has been alarmed by the ability of UNITA to penetrate the region which it previously regarded as its traditional area of support.

The planting of landmines in particularly serious in the so-called Luanda/Bengo region in a deliberate move to place the blame on UNITA. In this way, the regime hopes to force the people in the semi-arid area to flee into neighbouring cities where they can be effectively controlled.

However, the reports say that this has only led to increased hostility to the regime because the people have now discovered that it is actually MPLA and Cuban troops who are planting the landmines and not UNITA as alleged.

MADAGASCAR

Prime Minister Urges Restraint After Riots

AB101104 Paris AFP in English 1041 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Excerpt] Antananarivo, March 10 (AFP) — Attacks on Madagascar's Indo-Pakistani community have brought an appeal for restraint from Prime Minister Desire Rakotoarijoana and tougher action by the security forces.

Gen. Rakotoarijoana, opening a meeting Monday [9 March] of the military development committee, called for "respect for tradional values of Malagasy wisdom" and "harmony with foreigners".

Referring to "events affecting several regions of the island", the prime minister added, "if there is trouble, laws and regulations must be respectd."

A reliable source said that in the central town of Fianarantsoa, police acted swiftly to nip rioting in the bud late Monday. One looter was shot dead.

In Antsirabe, 150 kilometres (100 miles) south of here, where the wave of rioting began nearly two weeks ago, and at Farafangana and Toliary on the southeast coast, which were affected last week, the situation appeared to have returned to normal, apart from isolated incidents.

But in Antananarivo Asian shops were closed Tuesday for the second day, and police were maintaining a watchful presence.

A reliable source said the Interior Ministry had issued 600 exit visas in the past 24 hours for Asians, mainly women and children, but Air Madagascar said regular flights had been sufficient to take them so far. [passage omitted]

MALAWI

Banda Opens Budget Meeting in Parliament

MB110707 Blantyre Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Excerpts] Members of parliament begin their deliberations in Zomba today following the opening of the budget meeting of parliament yesterday by his excellency the life president, Ngwazi Dr Kamuzu Banda. In his opening address, the life president reiterated that from the current food situation in the country, there can be no question of starvation in any part of the country. [passage omitted] The life president thanked his people for listening to his approval for hard work in the fields, and urged them to continue doing so since Malawi's economy is agro-based.

The life president also spoke of the tribal relations in the country. He emphasized that modern Malawi has done away with the scourge of tribalism, which has made Malawi experience geniune peace and calm, law and order. The life president said that now, unlike in the colonial days, the people from various parts of the country are freer and (?are born) in any part of the country without regard to their tribal origin.

On foreign affairs, his excellency the life president reieterated Malawi's longstanding policy of good neighborliness. He repeated what he has always believed that the boundaries between Malawi and her neighbors are artificial and a creation of former colonial masters. The life president says that in this respect, Malawi will always maintain its policy of good neighborliness and cooperation with her neighbors since neighboring people are in fact our brothers and sisters.

MOZAMBIQUE

Frelimo Forces Make 'Inroads' Against MNR

MB102041 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] A report from the Mozambican central province of Zambezia says Mozambican forces have made inroads in the big push against the South African-backed MNR terrorists. The Mozambican news agency says in the heavy fighting that took place during the whole of last month, the Mozambican forces managed to evict from (Necaule) in the southern coastal district of Chinde. [sentence as heard]. (Necaule)had been captured by the MNR last November with some 2,000 people escaping from the area. They took refuge in the neighboring district of Inhassunge.

The Mozambican army took (Necaule) on the second week of February. The victory gave the government forces total control over all the coastal areas in the province. The coastal areas have been helping the MNR to get (?further) supplies from South Africa by sea.

This now means that members of the national Red Cross will be able to reach the island of Salia in the Zambezia delta, where

some 2,500 people were isolated.

In the north (?area) of Zambezia Province, the army has also recaptured the small town of Nauela, in the district of [passage indistinct] authorities which has been cut off from emergency supplies for 2 years. MNR terrorism in the province in the last month has resulted in the killing of 50 people and causing losses that run into millions of dollars.

'Only One-Third' of Beira Port's Capacity in Use

MB110726 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0400 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Last year Zimbabwe exported more than 200,000 tons of cargo through the Beira corridor, which represents a 13 percent increase compared with 1985. The national director of ports and railways said that despite the gradual increase in traffic on that line, only one-third of the installed capacity at Beira port is being used. Eng Ferreira Mendes, who contacted clients as part of a commercial promotion campaign conducted in Zimbabwe last year, noted that there is still a certain amount of reluctance by some importers and exporters to use the Beira corridor, preferring to use South African ports instead.

In an interview with AIM, Ferreira Mendes said that at the invitation of SADCC, 30 representatives from EEC enterprises recently visited the port of Beira to become acquainted with, among other things, the need for its rehabiliation. He said that the EEC had made available $48 million for the financing of a project to rehabilitate Beira port, which will allow the port's handling capacity to increase. Also under way is rehabilitation work on the Machipande-Beira railway, which is being carried out by Mozambique Railways and the National Zimbabwe Railways [preceeding words in English].

SOUTH AFRICA

Independent Malan Discusses Election Manifesto

MB101439 Johannesburg Television Service in Afrikaans 1830 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Interview with Wynand Malan, independent candidate for Randburg, by Andre le Roux, on the "Network" program — live]

[Text] [Le Roux] Mr Malan, welcome to our program. This is the first time we have had an independent candidate with us. About the concept of independent — I studied your manifesto today and I find it difficult to see an independent stand in it, unless the term means you still have one foot in the NP and the other in PFP policy. One of the points you make is that you want to begin a program of negotiation that excludes left and right radical groups. What is a leftist radical? Could you name one of them?

[Malan] Let me refer to one example, the PAC, the black consciousness movement. By definition it is not one that can be involved in any form of negotiation.

[Le Roux] And the ANC?

[Malan] The ANC, because of its armed struggle approach, is certainly out. But I do not believe we should be under the illussion that the ANC is only sitting in Lusaka. The ANC is inside South Africa, too. The whole spirit of the Freedom Charter...

[Le Roux, interrupting] But it remains an extremist group that must be excluded, because it is based in Lusaka?

[Malan] No, the ANC in Lusaka must be excluded. I do not believe one can negotiate with violence. One should not attempt to bring violence to the negotiating table either. But one cannot keep people out of a political process when they live and breathe the spirit of the Freedom Charter, a liberation manifesto, and make that their ideal. There are many such organisations inside South Africa, who may be found in the UDF alliance.

[Le Roux] So, the UDF is an organization with which one can negotiate, you say?

[Malan] Yes. But I would not refer to the UDF as an organization. It is actually a broad alliance, a front. But there are many organizations within the UDF with whom one can negotiate and, indeed, must negotiate. There is no doubt about that.

[Le Roux] And the right-wing extremist groups?

[Malan] The AWB by definition do not make themselves open to any form of compromise.

[Le Roux] So, do you put the AWB in the same camp as the ANC in Lusaka and the PAC in Libya or wherever they may be?

[Malan] I would say they have the same approach to politics; they exclude all others. They do not offer compromises. They do not accommodate anyone else.

[Le Roux] Mr Malan, negotiation: You say in the manifesto that it is necessary that reform must take place within the government of the day. If that is so, why did you leave the government, or the governing party?

[Malan] One must make a distinction between the NP and the government. Unfortunately, there is the illusion that the party and the government are one and the same thing. Of course, the party is the body from which the government emerges, if it is the party with the majority.

[Le Roux] Since when has it not been like that? A long time? How long have you been living with that; that the NP and the government...

[Malan, interrupting] Well, the two have always been different; they are separate entities. The leadership of the NP is placed in government, of course...

[Le Roux, interrupting] But the caucus system, that is certainly the most strict and rigid policy-making body in the NP, for the government. Is that not so?

[Malan] The caucus is not the policy-making body, the government is.

[Le Roux] But the caucus endorses policy?

[Malan] The caucus does not endorse policy. Policy is presented to the caucus for their information. That is the procedure within the party. But when MP's form a wedge against the legislative authority, when they watch over government powers in parliament, then it interferes with such procedure. But that is something we inherited from Westminster.

[Le Roux] Would you then say you would have been able to make some contribution if you were a member of government, as opposed to a member of the party?

[Malan] I do not know to what degree government members are truly free. There is government policy which, unfortunately, suffers, because there is not a division, a separation, in our system between the legislative and executive authorities.

[Le Roux] Sir, you are now narrowing it down from party to caucus to government. Now it seems there is something in government which...

[Malan, interrupting] No, of course there are differences within the government. But they all represent a single policy. Who formulates that policy — whether it is done jointly, by the whole group, or the president — that is difficult to say. But when I speak of policy that is not acceptable to me, and with which I cannot live, then I am referring to government policy.

[Le Roux] Mr Malan, one of the positive things you propose is that a judge, a senior judge, should be instructed to gather options for a suitable constitution. Who must issue that instruction?

[Malan] The government would have to issue it. After all, the government is the only one which can instruct a judge.

[Le Roux] Would he have to do this without negotiation?

[Malan] Yes, because it is simply a matter of gathering the options that exist in the country, among various parties, and that can also be compiled by political scientists. But these options must be abbreviated and presented in simple language, and also in all the languages of the country.

[Le Roux] Do you have a guarantee that a judge or, as you say, a senior judge would be able to gather all the important options?

[Malan] I cannot think of a more independent person. All he would have to do is simply place all the options on the table, and these can then be debated.

[Le Roux] But you say it must be a government initiative, that the government would not have to negotiate with the various groups in the country to make that decision?

[Malan] It is a decision with no consequences other than initiating a debate on the different views in the country.

[Le Roux] Mr Malan, let us imagine for a moment that you win in Randburg...

[Malan, interrupting] Which I am going to do.

[Le Roux] That is an open question. But, imagine you win in Randburg. What gave you the idea that a judge must be appointed by the government? You would not be able to implement the decision on the strength of a single seat, nor would your colleagues.

[Malan] Of course not, Mr le Roux. But let me return to my point. You accept that the NP and the government are one and the same thing. If the government is defeated — which I do not believe will happen on 6 May, but there is another election in 1989 — then a different government can come into power, which could implement the decision. But it is not impossible that the present government will implement the proposal. It certainly would not harm the government to start a valid debate on valid points of view.

[Le Roux] But wouldn't you say that you could have raised the idea within the party, rather than from outside the party?

[Malan] I do not believe...

[Le Roux, interrupting] You are now in position, Mr Malan.

[Malan] Of course. But I do not believe you should just concentrate on one idea in the manifesto. It is possible...

[Le Roux, interrupting] But that is the first concrete idea.

[Malan] That is not true at all. You should look at the other proposals in the manifesto. There are many concrete ideas.

[Le Roux] Very well, let us look at the other ideas. You are in favor of maintaining the State of Emergency; correct?

[Malan] I am in favor of maintaining the State of Emergency.

[Le Roux] Why?

[Malan] Because I believe it is necessary to control revolutionaries and extreme elements.

[Le Roux] Is it not necessary to at least facilitate peaceful reform in the country?

[Malan] Of course, it is also necessary for that reason. But it is not a question of whether one uses State of Emergency measures, but rather how one uses them. If the emergency is applied by the government to maintain the status quo and exclude people who are prepared to participate in the political process, then it is a wrong approach; however, if the emergency powers are implemented to exclude the true revolutionaries and militant elements, extreme elements from the process ...

[Le Roux, interrupting] That is what the government says...

[Malan, interrupting] May I just finish...to exclude them from the process, and the actual objective is to reach a new dispensation which is clear — not on the model itself but on the content — then emergency powers are being used correctly.

[Le Roux] Can we dwell for a moment on the human rights bill you are suggesting. It says among other things there must be free association, there must be group rights with respect to religion, language, culture, and the opportunity for education in one's own language. What about political rights? At group level?

[Malan] Obviously, each political party forms its own group but the definition...

[Le Roux, interrupting] Population groups. The definition in this country — of the government, at least — is that the population groups have to be protected.

[Malan] No, we totally reject the grouping of people and the concept that they should operate within the framework of that definition.

[Le Roux] Do you reject ethnicity?

[Malan] No, I do not reject the existence of ethnicity, but I reject the idea that we believe we can build structures based on the idea that groups of people can be defined as groups and not have the room to move out. An Afrikaner who marries into an English-speaking family has the right to make his culture English oriented. You would not define an Afrikaner group by saying people should always be Afrikaners and must exercise their political rights within Afrikaner circles.

[Le Roux] But you would say the white group is at least a government entity?

[Malan] No, I do not understand...

[Le Roux, interrupting] White rights?

[Malan] What are white rights? I mean white says nothing to me other than that I am white...

[Le Roux, interrupting] But we are fighting for a white political election. Why are you taking part in it, then?

[Malan] We are fighting a white political election because of the system in which we find ourselves, with the aim of extricating ourselves from this stagnated political situation.

[Le Roux] You are an independent candidate of Randburg. From there can you rescue the country from this stagnated situation, as you put it?

[Malan] I do not have any illusion that I am in power politics as far as 6 May goes. As an independent I do not believe I can take over the government. But the argument you are making is that all people should be in one party, which is the best place to bring about changes. And it is unfortunate...

[Le Roux, interrupting] The overwhelming...

[Malan, interrupting] Sorry, can I just make my point. Unfortunately, it is also the argument of the government, of people in the National Party: Do everything within the party. It sounds too much to me like Robert Mugabe's one-party approach.

[Le Roux] But you just said yourself that the National Party is going to win this election.

[Malan] Yes, of course it is going to win.

[Le Roux] And you say the National Party is not the vehicle through which reform can take place, and that the National Party should say yes to reform?

[Malan] We said in our manifesto that to get change, to genuinely move forward to a future for all, it is necessary for the government to reform itself from within. That means it should find a vision which is inclusive, so that everyone can be acknowledged as citizens with equal rights, equal opportunities and justice toward all people; and so that they can take part in a total dispensation, a system within which association can take place at the political, cultural or any other level, but with protection of those rights which are universally acknowledged. [sentence as heard]

[Le Roux] Mr Malan, let's talk a little bit about Randburg. You won the 1981 election by just over 600 votes...

[Malan, interrupting] Yes, nearly 700.

[Le Roux] Nearly 700. But let's not split hairs. Now your opponent was the PFP.

[Malan] That is correct.

[Le Roux] If you win in Randburg — given a tough candidate who will be laying claim to the support you received then — can you win that election without PFP support?

[Malan] I would probably not win without the traditionally PFP vote...

[Le Roux, interrupting] If that is the case, what mandate will you be given...

[Malan, interrupting] Can I just answer, because you are interrupting me before I can finish talking. You know that my standpoint has continuously been that I did not want the PFP to withdraw but to nominate a candidate, so that we could show the new message. But you should not only argue on the basis of winning. We can look at the majorities coming out of the election. The majoirty will tell the same story.

[Le Roux] Now, assuming you win — let us be positive — assuming you do win, and you win with the support of a large number of PFP supporters in the constituency, what...

[Malan, interrupting] Pardon me, let me just say, it will also include a reasonable number of Nationalists.

[Le Roux] I grant you that. Now, can you tell me, do you have a mandate from Dr Worrall, or your own? If you win, will it be on your own or on the back of the PFP? Will you have a mandate from them?

[Malan] No, I will have won on the strength of the manifesto

which I have laid down, and for which I have received support from traditionally Nationalist circles, and traditionally PFP circles, and, apparently, also several traditionally CP supporters.

[Le Roux] Mr Malan, in the last few days of the parliamentary session you took your place as an independent in the House, which your two colleagues did not do. Did you feel — apart from a demonstration of independent thinking — that you had achieved anything, that you had made a contribution to power politics in the country?

[Malan] Yes, very definitely, I felt I had achieved something. In the first place, the whole parliament listened silently to what I had to say. But in the second place — and that is more important — before I resigned, the election was going to be waged against the United States, against sanctions, against boycotts, against the ANC, whereas, the debate is now on the future of South Africa. That is the debate which I believe Mr Worrall and I and others have brought into our politics.

[Le Roux] Mr Malan, thank you.

[Malan] You are welcome. I am happy I was able to come.

NP Candidate Comments on Election Issues

MB101855 Johannesburg Television Service in Afrikaans 1830 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Interview with Olaus van Zyl, NP candidate for Randburg constituency, by Andre le Roux on the "Network" program — live]

[Text][Le Roux] Good evening, Mr Van Zyl. Mr Wynand Malan and his two colleagues in the Cape released their election manifesto today. Have you seen it yet?

[Van Zyl] No. Just before I came to the studio I read a newspaper report on it, but I still have not seen the manifesto itself.

[Le Roux] What were your first impressions?

[Van Zyl] I wouldn't like to react to the content. I believe the voters would expect us to react responsibly. So, as soon as we have had a chance to study it properly, we will do so. But by reading through the report, I feel it is a disappointment as regards the expectations which were created, and that it contains hardly any new vision, considering their accusations against the NP.

[Le Roux] Speaking of accusations, these have been repeated again. But let me ask you, has the NP stagnated? There has been some reform, everyone agrees on that. But it seems there is a definite halt to reform. Wouldn't you agree?

[Van Zyl] No, I cannot agree with that at all. I don't think one can look at reform in an isolated sense, in months or weeks. One has to look at it over a period of time. If one keeps in mind the reform that has taken place in our country in the past 4 or 5 years — more than anything which took place in the previous 50 years — and if one looks at what has taken place in the past year, 1986, when influx control was abolished, the pass laws were abolished, when great reforms took place in education, when blacks were brought into the provincial councils' executive committees, when so much progress was made in regional services councils, and so much more; well, when one looks at all these things, I cannot understand how people can say that reform has come to a standstill. But most important, the government, the NP, is now seeking a mandate for power sharing with blacks. That, after all, is the most important of all reform. If the government is seeking that mandate now, how can people say reform is at a standstill?

[Le Roux] We will come to that mandate in a moment, because the government also has a whole lot of conditions for black participation. But leave that for the moment. Your colleagues in the party, at least in private discussions, do not always agree with you that reform is still proceeding. In fact, the consolidation of support is now being given as the reason for the election. The process of consolidation, presupposes that reform be set aside for the present, and that this is necessary, with the election coming up. Your reaction?

[Van Zyl] Well, as I have just said, one should not look at reform only in one particular sense. One has to look at it over a period of time.

[Le Roux] But we are referring to constitutional reform.

[Van Zyl] When we speak of constitutional reform and power sharing, we have to bear in mind that the 1983 referendum was called over a constitution presented to the voters — a constitution which dealt with power sharing with coloreds and and Indians — and power sharing with blacks was not under discussion at that time. Then the state president came forward, especially in his opening speeches to parliament in 1985 and 1986, and he emphasized possible power sharing with blacks. But the NP does not yet have a mandate from its voters. Now it is going to them and asking for that mandate.

[Le Roux] Good enough, it is now asking for a mandate. But it is setting several conditions, a set of non-negotiables. The Group Areas Act is one of them. The rigid stance on group identity is seen as the only way of looking at constitutional reform. That is a condition laid down by the government. Own schools, and that kind of thing. Doesn't that make it very difficult for the black person to come forward and enter the political debate, at the level where he can negotiate?

[Van Zyl] I think the question one must ask oneself is: Which of these things must be changed before you enter into negotiations, and which of them are going to be negotiated?

[Le Roux] Answer your own question. What must be done before negotiations?

[Van Zyl] I personally believe that one cannot simply says one thing or the other. The fact of the matter is that when you look at...

[Le Roux, interrupting] But we are speaking about creating a climate for negotiation. You were directly involved with the President's Council's handling of the Group Areas Act, or the report on the act. Now, that report has been pushed aside, or that

is the impression one has.

[Van Zyl] No, that is not really true. Indeed, I am a member of the constitutional committee of the President's Council. We worked on that report for about 18 months. We almost had the report ready by October, November, of last year, when the chairman of the council decided that the report should be referred back to the committee in order for the committee to give more attention to certain aspects, so that there would be no uncertainty over these aspects when the report was presented. But I also want to say...

[Le Roux, interrupting] Are you saing, then, that even the Group Areas Act is now negotiable? Is that right?

[Van Zyl] The point I want to make is that the goverament, or rather the State President, would not have referred the Group Areas Act to the President's Council if he believed it was 100 percent in order as it stands, and that no amendments are needed to the act. You are aware, I'm sure, that the Separate Amenities Act and several other laws are contained in the President's Council report. The truth is that these matters are being looked at. It is not as though the government has said: We are now going to do nothing more, let us negotiate. The government is busy all the time giving attention to a whole range of issues. At the same time it is giving attention to dialogue and negotiation, because it is absolutely essential that we find a political system for this country which is acceptable to the majority of our people. That cannot come about without dialogue with the various population groups.

[Le Roux] Mr van Zyl, isn't the debate on reform limited to the NP alone, its caucus, its congresses?

[Van Zyl] I think what has happened in the past — and that applies not only to constitutional reform and politics — is that the general public, myself included, is often uninvolved and apathetic when things are discussed which do not affect them directly. That is the advantage of the election, because now there is suddenly a tremendous interest in those things which are now on the table. In other words, the general voting public is now interested. It is their right to know what is happening, what the different parties think. Now the party has the opportunity to inform these people. I think many people realize that the future of our country, of ourselves, of our children, is at stake when we speak of those issues now being presented to the nation for the election.

[Le Roux] Sir, my question was: Doesn't the NP — and therefore the government — believe that the debate on reform, the decisions on reform, remain the prerogative of the NP?

[Van Zyl] Well, the government of the day must, in the end, make the final cisions on the issue. So it is the duty of the government to give attention to the issue. It is true that government is often accused of not giving enough attention to the matter. But the government has invited many people and organizations — you will remember that Minister Heunis has told us over and over about how many people are involved in dialogue on different matters affecting reconciliation, reform, and negotiation.

[Le Roux] But you say the government must have the final say?

[Van Zyl] Yes. I mean, the government of the day is the legitimate body which was put there by the people. Surely, one cannot go behind the government to bring about dialogue for reconciliation. In the final instance, the government must have the final word. But that is not to say that all the people must not talk with each other, to create the proper climate and generate trust, mutual trust, among the different population groups and people. It is important that trust exist before the government can really negotiate meaningfully with the leaders of other population groups.

[Le Roux] So, with the government's right to the final say, that makes it the only one of the participants in negotiation with a veto. Isn't that true?

[Van Zyl] I don't think [changes thought] Well, yes, if one is referring to a final decision which has to be made at some time or another. But I think the attitude of the NP at present is one of consensus, of joint decisionmaking. One cannot enter into negotiations and expect to force one's will on other people. I also said just now that the issues being debated have, in the end, to be acceptable to the majority of our people in the country, and that includes the blacks. So, if you want to force your will on others, they will not accept it.

[Le Roux] You use the term, the majority of the people in the country. Let's look at the NP's rigidity over group rights. Wouldn't it be possible, really, to protect those group rights by giving greater attention to individual rights first?

[Van Zyl] I think South Africa is in a rather unique situation as far as individual rights and group rights go, in the sense that the composition of groups and the existence of such a great variety of groups and cultures in our country is something unique. This is why the NP says that in any future dispensation recognition must be given to, and provision must be made for, those groups. That does not mean the NP says there is no such thing as individual rights and that no provision should be made for them. But a balance will have to be found, instead, between individual rights and group rights. In other words, if you then ask me can individual rights alone not solve all our problems, then I would say: No. I believe we must also bring in group rights, and search for a balance between the two.

[Le Roux] Mr Van Zyl, are you opposed to apartheid?

[Van Zyl] Apartheid which causes discrimination, which benefits certain people over others, which acts to the disadvantage of some, and which is solely based on the color of one's skin, that kind of apartheid I am totally opposed to. So, too, is the NP, which has often said as much.

[Le Roux] Mr Van Zyl, thank you very much.

[Van Zyl] Thank you.

Party Spokesmen on International Pressure
MB101950 Johannesburg Television Service in English 1830 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Report on interviews with Foreign Minister Pik Botha of the NP, Ray Swart of the PFP, and Daan van der Merwe of the CP, by Freek Robinson, on the "Network" program introduced by Gillian van Houten and John Bishop: video recorded passages enclosed in quotation marks — live]

[Text] [Van Houten] South Africa finds itself in the invidious position of being committed to major internal reform at a time of severe international pressure. Both our international relations and the reform process have emerged as major election issues. To examine three different party political views on the relationship between these two issues, our political staff interviewed Mr Pik Botha of the NP, Mr Ray Swart of the PFP, and Mr Daan Van der Merwe of the CP. One of the questions posed was whether reform should be guided by international approval.

[Botha] "Most definitely not. The day South Africans allow the outside world to prescribe to us, that day the future of this country will be out of our hands. Chaos will follow, and we will never see the end of the prescriptions, and we will become subject to overseas pressures to such an extent that it will not be worthwhile to live in this country. They are not interested in the well-being of this country. They are not really interested in what happens to black people, or us for that matter. We are becoming more and more the subject of international politics and even internal politics, as the United States with South Africa is, in effect, a civil rights issue. The Congress of the United States does not really care what happens to black people in South Africa, because they are in effect robbing them of their jobs and the income and their livelihood."

[Swart] "Certainly, as far as the PFP is concerned, we have always maintained that the reform process should be motivated by our own needs, and we should execute it ourselves. We think that is terribly important. In South Africa, there is no doubt that drastic reform is necessary. This is felt, I think, politically, socially, and economically, throughout the country. But on the question of whether it is subject or should be subject to international approval, I think that is secondary. The prime consideration is that we must produce reform because we think reform is necessary. I think it is important that we should do so from the internal point of view. I think it is important that we should do so in order to try to salvage and maintain our own self-respect as a member of the civilized and enlightened community. I think when we have done that, we will not only resolve a lot of our own internal problems, but we will also resolve the problem of acceptibility by a large portion of the international community."

[Van Der Merwe] "I want to point out that what the present government is doing in the name of reform is not reform, but a mismanagement of our affairs, and is leading South Africa to disaster. Real political reform in South Africa is to grant each nation its own elected sovereign parliament in its own territory. That is the reform which the CP stands for, and that policy is not subjected to international approval. Every government and country can express their opinion about the situation in South Africa. As we in South Africa can express our opinions about the situation in other countries. But eventually, in the final instance, every country must decide for itself. We will not interfere with the internal affairs of other countries. But we will not tolerate interference in our country with our situation."

[Botha] "We have got to make sure that our friends in the Western world understand that we are sincere in our reform program. I have no doubt that South Africa still has a sufficient number of friends abroad who do believe that we are making progress. It is just that we find ourselves in this wave of anti-south Africanism, a perception that was created about the policies of this government, and we have got to sweat it out. Sooner or later the pendulum must swing, but it will only swing if the vast majority of South Africans show clearly that they are not going to be prescribed to by the outside world. This is important in the May election, that South Africa...[changes thought] From my point of view, it is of overriding importance that the signal that our electorate must send out to the outside world is: We are a regional power of strength, and this government represents the vast majority of the white electorate, and we are a factor. There can be no solution to South Africa's problems without this important component that has also built up South Africa. We will share power, but we are not going to surrender it."

[Swart] "We have got to realize that whether we like it or not, the international spotlight is on South Africa. There are people out there looking to see the reform process working. We have friends, people who are friendly, disposed in a friendly way towards South Africa. And I think that we must expect that they will continue to be very interested indeed in what reform is undertaken in this country. So you cannot osilate the country from the reform process."

[Bishop] Now there seems to be agreement between all three parties on the necessity for the reform process not to be dictated to by the outside world. There was, however, strong disagreement on the effect of international pressure on South Africa's reform process.

[Robinson] "Minister, what effect does South Africa's international image have on its reform process?"

[Botha] "I think a retarding effect, in this sense, that many of my black friends have told me that they would wish to come out in the open, talk with us, and that they find many of the principles that we offer — power sharing, removal of discrimination — acceptable to them. But they cannot dare to do so. Their houses are being bombed. I have black South African friends who have lost three cars, whose daughters were raped, whose sons were necklaced. Whites have not gone through this, and do not seem to understand it. I am encouraged by the fact that so many black South Africans still hold firm to the idea of sharing power on the basis of the protection of minorities and joint decisionmaking in respect of matters affecting the country as a whole.

[Swart] "I think the first consideration, of course, we must reform for the sake of internal considerations. But I think that more and more South Africans are realizing that our international image is terribly important. After all, businessmen, sportsmen, people in all sorts of spheres of life in South Africa are conscious of the fact that in order to succeed they have got to have a far better

image for South Africa outside of this country. And I think that this has the effect of making those people much more conscious of the very desperate need for real reform within South Africa."

[Botha] "It is quite clear, and again, my black friends say to me: How can I come out in the open and talk with you on matters if your white forefathers from Europe and your white brothers in America are more against you than we are? There is no question about it. There is no question about it. When the U.S. Congress passes legislation to the effect that we have got to be punished, then that in itself is making it more difficult for moderate blacks to come to the fore. That in itself is encouraging necklace murders. It is no good, like some of the PFP and liberal press people in this country have tried to allege, that that is not encouraging violence. Of course it is encouraging violence. I have direct evidence of this. Because sanctions, which is being propagated by the Congress in the United States and other elements in Europe, and even church elements, is not a peaceful alternative. It creates unemployment, and unemployment creates chaos, and vagrancy, and further, violence. So one can almost quantify the effects of this. That is why I have said the U.S. Congress has created violence in this country, and it is a fact."

STAR Publishes DPSC Detainees Day Advertisement

MB101719 Johannesburg THE STAR in English
10 Mar 87 p 4

[Advertisement issued by Detainees Parents Support Committee, DPSC; passages within slantlines published in boldface]

[Text] **National Detainees Day Thursday, 12th March 1987**

9 Months of the Emergency

— Since June 12th 1986, over 25,000 people have been detained.

— Of these approximately 10,000 have been children.

— Approximately 3,500 women have been held.

We don't know the full extent of the numbers detained during the past nine months because the minister refuses to reveal these figures.

The detainees have one thing in common: They are opponents of apartheid and the Nationalist Government. Most of the detainees are voteless South Africans who are operating in democratically elected bodies.

They are members and leaders of civic **associations, trade unions, youth, students and women's organisations**

Unlike the current Nationalist Government these detainees represent the democratic will of the majority of South Africans.

The DPSC calls on people in all communities to act in solidarity with detainees by:

1. Observing a national fast from sunrise to sunset on March 12th.

2. Lighting candles on the night of March 12th.

3. Attending meetings called to commemorate national detainees day.

4. Observing Sunday, 15th March as a day of prayer for detainees.

5. Requesting church ministers on that day to dedicate their services to detainees, wherever possible.

End the Emergency

Issued by Detainees' Parents Support Committee

Supported by: SA Catholics Bishops Conference (SACBC); SA Council of Churches (SACC); National Education Crisis Committee (NECC); Transvaal Students Congress (TRASCO); National Education Union of SA (NEUSA); National Medical and Dental Association (NAMDA); Congress of SA Trade Unions (COSATU); Black Sash; United Democratic Front (UDF); Johannesburg Democratic Action Committee (JODAC); Anti-Presidents Council Committee (Anti PC); Transvaal Indian Congress (TIC); End Conscription Campaign (ECC);

Police Issue Statement

MB101622 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1558 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Pretoria March 10 SAPA — Follows a statement issued to SAPA by the South African Police Directorate of Public Relations in Pretoria:

"The SAP has, as the result of an advertisement headlined "National Detainees Day Thursday 12 March" and published in the *City Press* dated March 8, 1987 but issued on March 6 1987, thoroughly considered the matter and also sought legal advice in order to properly carry out its tasks.

"It is the duty of the SAP to maintain law and order and especially during the present state of emergency to ensure that all provisions of the emergency regulations are fully enforced.

"In the light of the fact that legal advisers of the SAP are of the opinion that the particular advertisement is an infringement of Regulation 3 (1) (H) of the regulations as proclaimed in Proclamation 224 of December 11, 1986, all editors were informed that, should the particulars or similar advertisement be published, the SAP would, in terms of Regulation 6 of the said regulations, be obliged to seize the publication. This information was applied to the editors in all fairness and in the spirit of co-operation to prevent any possible financial loss to the media.

"It is self evident that any party not in agreement has the fullest right, and had the fullest right, to turn to the courts to protect his rights.

"Comment by the editor of *The Star* in today's issue of March 10 creates the impression that the newspaper had been delivered to the mercy of the police. The comment completely overlooked

the fact that the police's action could at any time be tested in the courts and that the police were fully responsible for any unjustified action and any damage resulting from its actions should a court decide."

Court Blocks Seizure of Paper
MB101243 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1235 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Johannesburg, March 10, SAPA — The supreme court in Johannesburg today granted an order restraining police from seizing any editions of *The Star* containing a DPSC [Detainees Parents Support Committee] advertisement.

The temporary order also declared the advertisement did not contravene the emergency regulations.

The police have been given until March 24 to show why the order should not finally be granted.

Giving evidence Mr Tyson said: "We have two concerns. One is that having taken every possible step to ensure that the advertisement is legal in the eyes of the police we received this visit.

"More than that we believe our reputation is at stake. Not once in 80 years have we been stopped from reaching our readers. We believe we would lose readers if we couldn't give a daily reliable service."

He said that having removed all reference to the release of detainees in the advert, the matter had been taken up in an editorial on the front page. The editorial argues the emergency regulations referred to the release of a detainee and that he could not believe the legislator intended the public should not be allowed to debate the issue of detention without trial, said Mr Tyson.

Mr D. Kuny, SC [Senior Counsel], for *The Star* submitted before Mr Justice Donovan that references to the release of detainees had been removed from the advert. These were the portions, he argues, that might have contravened the emergency regulations. The regulations provide that no publication should contain a call for the release of a detainee.

A notice to seize *The Star* was handed to Mr Tyson this morning, Mr Kuny said, but the police were informed that the advertisement had been amended. "He (the policeman) indicated that he would have to go back and take instructions. The threat has not been lifted," said Mr Kuny.

The seizure of the newspaper would be a "drastic and prejudicial step." It would affect many thousands of copies and the resulting financial loss, as well as the reputation of *The Star*. The threat against the newspaper had not been withdrawn. The matter was "under consideration". The newspaper's main edition could be printed, distributed and then all copies taken off the street and out of shops by police. To obviate this, the application had been brought as a matter of urgency.

Threat to Seize Paper Condemned
MB101806 Johannesburg THE STAR in English
10 Mar 87 p 1

["Comment: The Real Emergency"]

[Text] A series of moves — surely never contemplated by the Government in its emergency measures — is leading to a situation where no one, including election candidates, will be safe from the awesome powers of the Security Police.

It is a scandal, transcending politics, which any citizen ignores at his peril.

For more than 700 years, since the days of Magna Carta, western civilisation has accepted the principle that no person should be incarcerated indefinitely without a trial by his peers. Since Roman times this has been recognised as the only guarantee a citizen has of fairness as well as freedom; safety as well as justice. But suddenly in our country even the right to question imprisonment without trial is now threatened.

How have we reached this kind of totalitarian action?

You do not have to look very far back in history to see how easily law is eroded when power is unchecked; when the electorate stays silent? In the interests of State security"; when officials are empowered to make their own regulations.

The police are claiming — and attempting to enforce their untested, probably illegitimate claim — that no one may even demand an end to detention and the release or charging of prisoners. The authorities have issued a public threat that any newspaper that publishes what we believe to be a legal advertisement calling for the release of detainees will be liable to confiscation of the paper.

They have pronounced that an advertisement published in *City Press* and a report published by *The Star* were illegal in their view, and have warned all editors that if anything similar is published again, newspapers will be seized. (This right of seizure under Emergency Regulations was set aside when we challenged it in the Natal Supreme Court, but has been reinstituted in another form.)

Yet our legal advice is that the advertisement is legal. But if we publish it today, we shall be heavily penalised, irrespective of whether we are within our legal rights.

This is because, without awaiting a court decision in the matter, the police have announced that in terms of Clause 6 of the emergency regulations they will walk into the building and confiscate all copies — costing the newspaper hundreds of thousands of rands damage. We shall have to go to court to claim some of those damages.

But the cost, and even the principle of every advertiser's right to state any legitimate case (a principle we fought and won in the courts recently to little avail), are insignificant next to the basic right to demand justice.

How can any fairminded person, even in a state of emergency — even in a state of war — support the idea that no-one can call for the release of detainees? Shades of Emily Hobhouse! To what depths have some so-called representatives of nationalism sunk!

In the light of current official threats, the advertisers have had to remove their appeal for basic justice so that we may publish at least part of their message without irreparable damage to the newspaper.

But *The Star* certainly does appeal for a whole review of the detention system, and of all the dangerous as well as restrictive regulations.

We trust that every candidate in the coming election who believes in fair play and justice will also condemn indefinite detention of thousands of people who have committed no crime.

We hope that voters, if only for their own long-term safety, will support any such call to return to rule of law. Unless action is taken very soon to change the current official approach, it will have to be acknowledged that South Africa has finally fallen into the category of Police State.

Detainees Solidarity Ad Run
MB110653 Umtata Capital Radio in English
0600 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Excerpt] Newspapers all over South Africa are running an advert sponsored by antidetention organizations. As Carmel Rickard reports, the appearance of the advert follows the failure of police attempts to prevent the publication of the ad yesterday:

[Rickard] Durban's morning newspaper *Natal Mercury* and other papers countrywide such as the *Cape Times* are carrying the controversial advertisement this morning. The add marks the 9th month of South Africa's state of emergency and calls on churches and the public to undertake certain action in solidarity with detainees. The ad says since 12 June over 25,000 people have been held, of whom 10,000 are children. [passage omitted]

UDF, PFP Praise STAR's Action
MB110837 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0830 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Excerpts] Johannesburg, March 11, SAPA — A tide of concern for freedom of speech in South Africa poured into *The Star* offices today following yesterday's court drama in which the newspaper successfully appealed to the supreme court to prevent police seizing the newspaper.

Human rights groups, the official opposition, lawyers and extra-parliamentary groups all condemned efforts to stop *The Star* publishing a Detainees Parents Support Committee [DPSC] advertisement.

Following yesterday's Rand Supreme Court case, in which Mr Justice O'Donovan granted the newspaper temporary orders ruling that the form in which the advertisement about tomorrow's annual national detainees day appeared was legal, and restraining police from seizing copies of the newspaper, four other newspapers today published the advertisement.

They were the *Sowetan*, the *Natal Mercury*, the *Eastern Province Herald*, and the *Cape Times*. [passage omitted]

The United Democratic Front welcomed the supreme court ruling, but warned that new emergency regulations were likely to be issued to circumvent the ruling.

A statement issued by the acting secretary of the UDF, Mr Murphy Morobe said: "The UDF welcomes the order of the supreme court barring the police from confiscating copies of yesterday's editions of *The Star*.

"This incident has clearly highlighted the extent to which South Africa is effectively run by the police force.

"*The Star's* stand on the advert is particularly commendable. We hope that more and more newspapers will begin to take the fight to the SA police whenever their right to publish is threatened by stupid and often uniformed decisions of mere policemen.

"If their past record is anything to go by, we should expect more regulations to circumvent this court order," Mr Morobe said.

The Star was congratulated by PFP media spokesman Mr Dave Dalling, for standing up to the police and refusing to be intimidated.

A DPSC spokesman accused the government of being terrified of criticism of the embarrassing issue of detention of political opponents.

Johannesburg regional chairman of the Conservative Party, Mr Clive Derby-Lewis said: "If the government believes the DPSC is undermining the country they should ban it rather than act against *The Star*."

Last night and this morning telephone callers congratulated *The Star*.

Mr Geoff Budlender, the director of the legal resources centre, said "the seizure of newspapers is contrary to any notion of a free press." [passage omitted]

DPSC Says 25,000 Detained
MB110950 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0947 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Johannesburg, March 11, SAPA — About 25,000 people have been detained since the beginning of the present state of emergency, the Detainees Parents Support Committee [DPSC] said today in their fifth special report on the emergency.

The figure was based on an examinaiton of the names released by parliament and on an examination of reports received from all areas of the country, the document said.

"It is also based on our previous experience of assessing the number of detentions, that is, by how much the actual number of detentions exceeds the number of detentions of which we know.

"The minister of law and order has said that he does not consider it in the interests of the country to give the total number of people detained under this state of emergency."

Official figures released by the minister of law and order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, in February put the total since August at 13194.

Among 3857 people detained at the beginning of the year "Mr Vlok said... were those of 281 youths under the age of 16. Three were under the age of 12, 18 under the age of 13, 91 under the age of 14 and 169 under 15.

"He added that 'it must be noted that youths over 14 are considered fully accountable in law.'"

"He said that 1000 of the persons named had been charged."

The report said the 13194 detainees excluded detainees held for less than 30 days and several mass detentions of Tembisa municipal workers, of Nels Dairy workers in Johannesburg, of a church congregataion in Cape Town, of a congregation in Graff-reinet and of OK workers around the country.

Reserve Bank Head: Interest Payments To Continue

MB110815 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] The governor of the South African Reserve Bank, Dr Gerhard de Kock, says South Africa will not follow Brazil and suspend interest payments on its $24 billion debt. Speaking at a news conference in Pretoria, Dr de Kock said South Africa has a current account surplus and had met its commitment so far. He said there was no reason to suppose that the situation would change. South Africa is holding informal talks with foreign banks on a new debt agreement to replace rescheduling accord which runs out in June. Formal talks are due to start next month.

Police Kill Suspected ANC Member in Guguletu

MB110819 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0743 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Cape Town, March 11, SAPA — A suspected member of the ANC was shot dead by police in Guguletu early this morning. Shots were fired at a police patrol in Terminus Road shortly after 8am this morning and police returned the fire.

A policeman and two kitskonstabels [special constables] were injured while on patrol in the same area on Monday after shots from an AK 47 were fired at them. They were Sgt O. Mollendorf, Const T. Qungqawa and Const R. Sipho.

Sgt Mollendorf was hit by gunfire and the kitskonstabels by shrapnel. Police found 28 AK47 cartridges on the scene. Police cordoned off the area today and later found a black man in a house lying face down. He had been shot in the stomach and was dead. They also found an AK47 and ammunition and several handgrenades.

The police confirmed that they were investigating the possibility that the man who was killed was also responsible for the shots which were fired at the police on Monday. Police are investigating.

Information Bureau Reviews Jan, Feb Unrest

MB110942 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0933 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Pretoria, March 11, SAPA — The Bureau for Information's unrest review, March 1987:

"The low unrest figure, a tendency which developed during the second half of 1986, continued during the first two months of this year.

"The number of incidents during January and February is the lowest since December 1984.

"Stone throwing and petrol bomb attacks were the dominant types of unrest incidents. Of all the incidents during February, for example, 52 per cent comprised stone throwing.

"In comparison with the preceding three months, January showed an increase in unrest related deaths.

"Thirty-four persons died during January. February, on the other hand showed a sharp decline. The 16 unrest related deaths reported in this month represents the lowest figure in two years. Regarding the number of unrest related injuries, the low tendency which emerged during the second half of last year was maintained, and the figure remained low.

This low level of visible unrest remains very encouraging and it is of cardinal importance that this tendency should continue its downward trend if a meaningful situation of normality is to be attained.

"The continuing unrest in certain parts of South Africa proves that the underlyinbg cliamte conducive to unrest has not yet decreased significantly. At this moment there is no irrefutable evidence which would indicate that the present state of visible calmness would continue, should the emergency regulations be lifted."

Information Bureau Reports 10 Mar Unrest

MB110852 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0850 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Pretoria, March 11, SAPA — The Bureau for Information's unrest report for the period 0001 to 2400 March 10;

"Isolated incidents of stone throwing and a petrol bomb attack on private and security force vehicles were the only unrest-related incidents reported during the abovementioned period. No injuries or arrests occurred and damage was reported as minimal."

Press Comments on Current Issues, Problems

MB110700 [Editorial Report]

THE CITIZEN: Independents Manifesto Visionless

"The manifesto of the three Independents, Mr Wynand Malan, Dr Denis Worrall and Dr Esther Lategan, is a damp squib," says the page 6 editorial in Johannesburg *The Citizen* in English on 10 March. "The Independents claim to be the embodiment of the 'new dynamic spirit' that already exists, but they cannot define the new spirit and they cannot give it real meaning." "Dare we say the Independents are in the same predicament as the government, the 28 'rebel' professors and others — they cannot put forward constitutional plans because these have to be negotiated with the Blacks and not prescribed to them?" The independents have "no plan and no vision for the future." "At least the government has instituted reforms, it is committed to change, and it has the power and means to bring about further reforms. The Independents can only waffle."

THE STAR: Removals Harm Government Credibility

A page 12 editorial in Johannesburg *The Star* in English on 10 March notes that the government announcement that there would be no further forced removals was "a major proof of the Government's willingness to change." "That undertaking looks hollow indeed today. Constitutional Development Minister Mr Chris Heunis, answering questions put to him in Parliament, has now revealed that last year 64,180 black people were resettled or moved to the homelands, and that 21,973 more still had to be removed." "For as long as the Government proceeds with removals, it can kiss credibility goodbye. It is perfectly obvious to everybody that the Government says one thing for the sake of perceived political propaganda advantage while in practice doing something entirely different."

SABC Under Government Pressure

"The hand of Government is too heavy on the SABC, and appears to be getting heavier," says a second editorial on the same page. The SABC is being used as "the powerful political mouthpiece of the National Party." "It is increasingly obvious that the SABC is being made to lean ever more heavily towards the Nationalist Government with embarrassing results." "Only when the SABC can be seen to be neutral can the corporation hope to escape from the cloud of suspicion and controversy which surrounds it. It must serve no political master."

BUSINESS DAY on Editor Resignation

"Devastating judgment has been passed on the National Party and on the leadership of President P.W. Botha by the departing editor of *Rapport*, the Afrikaans Sunday newspaper," says Johannesburg *Business Day* in English on 10 March in a page 6 editorial. Editor Wimpie de Klerk was "subjected to pressures from the top which he regarded as abnormal and far in excess of those he felt during the premiership of John Vorster. *Business Day* believes the NP reformist members "are doomed to continued frustration and defeat after the election. And those businessmen and other reform-minded folk who voted for President Botha as 'a step in the right direction' and plan to vote for him again are, to put it bluntly, dupes." "No Opposition critic could have put it so clearly or with such authority: a vote for the NP is a vote not for reform but for continued apartheid."

CAPE TIMES: South Africans Opt for Peace

A page 8 editorial in Cape Town *Cape Times* in English on 9 March says: "Any doubt about the groundswell against the Botha government in Nationalist intellectual circles will be dispelled by the resignation of Dr Wimpie de Klerk as editor of *Rapport*." "What is clear is that this is another devastating indictment of the government's failure to carry through even on its own limited reform programme. The turbulence rocking Afrikaner Nationalism just before a general election could just mean that, under pressure, whites of South Africa are reaching out for the olive branch instead of going down the Rhodesia road of supporting right-wing answers."

SOWETAN: Battle To Win Hearts of Blacks

A correspondent writes in the "Focus" column on page 6 of Johannesburg *Sowetan* in English that: "South Africa's 'total onslaught' to meet the revolutionary onslaught is fast taking shape and the authorities are claiming early successes. Information coming from Government sources however indicates they know that the war is far from won." "The state of emergency has won a temporary breathing space for the real contest — the battle to win the hearts and minds of the majority of blacks." A major concern at the moment is the fact that the government "has not started to win the propaganda war." "There is little doubt in the minds of many Government sources that if current security measures are relaxed to any great degree at the moment there will be a rapid growth of the revolutionary climate."

BEELD: NP Reform Needs Support

Correspondent Dawie says in the "From My Political Pen" column on page 8 in Johannesburg *Beeld* in Afrikaans on 7 March that "the NP is in the best position to bring about reform. Only the NP can do it." He points out that a "weakening of the NP, of the government, will not help the process of reform in any way." Dawie believes that the government "must be made as strong as possible so that it can take courageous steps as it did in the past. For this reason it needs the support of the majority of the white voters. The government must be made strong so that black leaders have no option but to participate in negotiations, from which they shy away at the moment."

BEELD Supports NP 'Vision'

Johannesburg *Beeld* in Afrikaans on 10 March finds it "politically refreshing" that Transvaal NP leader F.W. de Klerk has admitted that the NP 1981 plan for black rights "is on the rocks." "A party that admits its errors can be entrusted with the future of a country." "The NP does not have all the answers," but the important fact is that the government "is on the right path, while those of the right are on the road of failures." "Because the government is busy with the most daring and at the same time one of the most dangerous changes in history, it needs strong control. This is one aspect which the independents do not understand. The NP cannot be strengthened by being weakened in this delicate phase. If this happens, there will be less power to negotiate the rights of minority groups. What becomes of the ideals of those on the left and of the independents?" Minister De Klerk's statement at the Innesdale meeting "is a confirmation of vision and realism."

RAPPORT: Not Voting 'Lazy'

The page 10 editorial in Johannesburg *Rapport* in Afrikaans on

8 March says that intentionally abstaining from voting is "a form of political expression — even if it is negative." "Some people want to punish the government by not voting, and want to protest without supporting an alternative party." The editorial points out that by doing so they are "rejecting the choice of an alternative party." Not only is it "a lazy way of political involvement" but also "the least responsible."

Editor Criticizes NP Delaying Tactics

On the same page editor Willem de Klerk writes that "everyone is saying that it is after the May election that things are going to happen," but this "wait-until-after-the-election tactic is just not good enough. It is dodge politics and a propaganda manipulation of the voters. One has to know before the elections." De Klerk further says that the NP is not going to move away from "its foundation of four race groups (white, brown, black, Indian)" even though "it is unacceptable to the majority of the inhabitants of South Africa." The NP has "committed itself to own affairs, own schools, and own residential areas in its mandate. Grey areas is not a word that the NP uses officially."

Criticism of Election Boycott

Lawrence Schlemmer, head of the center for management studies at the University of the Witwatersrand Business School, says on page 11 that "it is generally said that the NP is going to lose votes rather than seats in this coming election. Those dissatisfied on the left and on the right of the NP will prefer to stay away from the polls rather than to vote for opposition parties." But, Schlemmer believes that "in this year's election a lower voting percentage will be more ambiguous since the candidates will not know whether the protest comes from the left or the right, or whether it comes from Afrikaners or English." "No voting is surely the laziest way of political involvement. In the brown and in the Indian election there was a boycott organization that mobilized to send out a message. In white politics such action would be nothing more than a voice in the wilderness."

THE NAMIBIAN Calls for Police Apology

"The police have finally acknowledged an incident in northern Namibia in the area of Ondobe on December 29 last year, when the bodies of alleged SWAPO insurgents were tied to the side of a Casspir vehicle, and paraded to residents of the area," says the page 12 editorial in Windhoek *The Namibian* in English on 6 March. "An apology is owed the people of northern Namibia; those who are subjected to incidents such as these perpetrated by security forces. We also trust, now that the admission has been made, that such incidents will not occur in the future, and that some other means be found for transporting the bodies of dead guerrillas. There is no excuse for such inhumanity."

ZIMBABWE

Polish Politburo Member, Group Arrive for Talks

MB091932 Harare Domestic Service in English
1745 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] A Politburo member of the Polish United Workers' Party, Comrade Stanislaw Bejger, has arrived in Harare for a week-long visit during which he is expected to hold talks with ZANU-PF officials. Comrade Bejger was met at the airport by the speaker of the House of Assembly, Comrade Dydimus Mutasa; the ZANU-PF deputy secretary for the commisariat and culture, Comrade (Nelson Mamba); and the Polish ambassador to Zimbabwe, Comrade Miroslaw Dackiewicz. Comrade Bejger is leading a four-man delegation which is expected to sign a cooperation agreement with ZANU-PF later this week.

GDR Deputy Education Minister Speaks at Party

MB100744 Harare Domestic Service in English
0600 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] The visiting deputy minister of higher [as heard] and technical education in the German Democratic Republic, the GDR, say Zimbabwe plays an important role in international relations. The deputy minister, Comrade Guenter Heidorn, speaking at a party hosted in his honor in Harare said the GDR is eager to strengthen its cooperation with Zimbabwe in the spirit of friendship and solidarity. Officially welcoming Comrade Heidorn and his delegation, the deputy minister of education, Comrade Joseph Culverwell, said there was a [word indistinct] made at the invitation of the minister of labor, manpower, planning, and social welfare, Comrade Federick Shava, who visited the GDR last October.

Minister's Remarks on Cost of War 'Propaganda'

MB110757 (Clandestine) Radio Truth in English
to Zimbabwe 0430 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Station commentary]

[Text] That great exponent of deception, [Information Minister] Comrade Shamuyarira, has been at it again. In an interview with a representative from the BBC, the minister is said to have claimed that the cost of our military involvement in Mozambique was less than a million dollars a month. He also alleged that the ZNA troop commitment in that country was only 5,000 men. Other far more reliable and truthful sources have put the cost of propping up Frelimo at a minimum of half a million dollars a day and some put it much closer to a million dollars. Moreover, the strength of the ZNA task force is at least double the figure quoted by Dr Nathan. We cannot believe for one moment that the minister is unaware of the true position. His statements must be seen, therefore, as a deliberate piece of *propaganda* to fool the public at home and abroad.

If he is implying that only the extra cost of fuel, ammunition, and equipment repair and replacement should be taken into account, then that too is a misrepresentation. The whole cost of the task force, including pay, allowances, clothing, equipment, armaments and ammunition, tanks, planes, vehicles, fuel, accommodation, and medical facilities, must be assessed to arrive at the real size of the financial burden. Without the Mozambican commitment, the strength of our armed forces could be substancially reduced, as these troops are not required for any other purpose. The saving for the hard-pressed taxpayer would be truly significant, or, alternatively, the money could be devoted to so many worthy causes, especially the relief of unemployment by stimulating economic growth and job opportunities.